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Clinton: Iraq must make total compliance

By DAVID RUDGE
and news agencies

Foreign ministers from the US, Britain, and France last night headed for an extraordinary middle-of-the-night meeting in Geneva with their Russian counterpart to decide whether his plan will end the UN showdown with Iraq. Toughest to persuade will be the US, which has been rushing warplanes and other forces to the Gulf region because of Saddam's expulsion of Americans serving on the UN team looking for weapons of mass destruction.

US President Bill Clinton yesterday spelled out the US bottom line on the crisis, saying any resolution must be based on full Iraqi compliance with UN arms inspectors. As he spoke, stealth fighter jets set off for the Gulf to join a growing US air and naval force, putting extra muscle behind the demands on Saddam's government. Also scheduled to leave for the region later were six B-52 bombers from Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana. "Iraq must comply with the unanimous will of the international community and let the weapons inspectors resume their

work to prevent Iraq from developing an arsenal of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons," Clinton said at a White House gathering. He said monitoring must go on without Iraqi interference. "That's our top line, that's our bottom line," he said. Clinton's remarks appeared aimed at heading off speculation that Washington, which has taken a tough line against softening the restrictions on Iraq since the 1991 Gulf War, would let Saddam escape full compliance with UN resolutions.

Israel is closely monitoring the situation in the Gulf and particularly in Iraq, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said yesterday. "Saddam Hussein tries at certain periods to ignite the region. I'm sure, however, that the UN and the United States will find the appropriate answer," he told reporters in the North. "I believe that if there are any changes in the assessments of the situation or if there is a need for any action, I very much hope that we will be updated beforehand so we may consider whether it would be necessary to take any steps,"

Mordechai said after touring parts of the western sector of the security zone. He added that the crisis in the Gulf and its potential ramifications are constantly being assessed. "We are closely monitoring the situation and preparing for various possibilities. We hope, however, that the crisis will end in such a way that the UN, the United States, and the other powers will continue activities in Iraq and prevent it from having the ability to produce, today and in the future, weapons of mass destruction," Mordechai said. He reiterated that there is no cause for

panic and called on Israelis to go about their daily lives as usual. However, the number of Israelis exchanging gas masks for new models has increased fourfold, to 10,000 a day, since the start of the latest Gulf crisis, Deputy Defense Minister Silvan Shalom told Israel Radio yesterday. US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, speaking to reporters at Cairo airport on her way to Geneva from New Delhi, where she cut short a visit to India, took the same tough line as Clinton.

See IRAQ, Page 2

PM: We'll probe Likud parley

By SARAH HONIG

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu promised yesterday to set up an inquiry committee to examine the events of the recent Likud convention. He would abide by any recommendation that it makes, he said. But before the probe, he made it clear there would be no question of sacking his right-hand man, Avigdor Lieberman, the director-general of the Prime Minister's Office. Lieberman himself denied last night that he has told associates he

MKs trek to Netanyahu's office, Page 2

would like to leave his job for work in private business. However, a number of Likud sources say they have heard Lieberman expressing a desire to quit for well over a month.

The news among Netanyahu's foes yesterday was that Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert conversed briefly by phone with Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo, after the two had refused to talk to each other for several days.

Their cause suffered a setback yesterday when it turned out that according to Knesset rules it would take 17 MKs to split the Likud faction and come away with the party name and assets. It was previously thought that 12 would suffice. In addition, the reckoning must include the entire Likud-Tsomet-Gesher contingent and not the Likud component alone.

Milo contended last night that the uprising against Netanyahu has "not at all lost steam." Speaking on Channel 1, Milo said the rebellion had not fizzled out, but was moving along satisfactorily. He expected new recruits for his venture, because "many of the ministers and MKs who spoke to Netanyahu [yesterday] emerged unhappy with what they heard." Shortly after his plane touched down early yesterday morning, Netanyahu became involved in hectic efforts to defuse the Likud crisis. He launched a marathon of tete-a-tetes with ministers and leading MKs.

In the afternoon he met a delegation of Likud mayors - excluding Olmert and Milo - who came to express support, in view of what they claimed were attempts to depose him while he was abroad. Today, Netanyahu will meet with Olmert and Communications Minister Limor Livnat. While both have not openly crossed over to opposing Netanyahu, they were reported to be colluding with opposition circles, in schemes geared to replace Netanyahu as Likud leader.

A top source close to Netanyahu vehemently denied last night that there was any thought of sacking Livnat. In all his meetings yesterday, Netanyahu stressed that he favors "an exhaustive probe into all that went on in the Likud convention." He said that his meeting with the mayors that "all aspects of the convention will be examined and no stone will be left unturned. Whatever needs be corrected in the Likud will be corrected." Netanyahu's political day began with a series of short meetings

with Science Minister Michael Eitan, Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, Deputy Defense Minister Sylvan Shalom and Likud Knesset faction chairman Meli Sheerit.

In between the Likud-centered politics, he also took up demands for a national unity government with Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani. All this was topped by a visit from Likud activists, who showed up with placards backing Netanyahu and Lieberman.

Netanyahu told Shalom he had "accepted the idea of an internal inquiry." He said he would undertake in advance to accept and implement any findings and recommendations the committee makes, even if they are of a personal nature," Shalom said.

Sheerit reported that, "as faction members had wished, the inquiry would be headed by a former judge, most likely Aryeh Segalson," the name first put forth by Likud MKs.

"The committee would be given a free hand... It would also be empowered to make operative recommendations regarding specific persons... and Netanyahu agreed that he would abide by anything the committee comes up with," Sheerit asserted.

Earlier yesterday Sheerit canceled a consultation which was to have produced a list of faction demands, including a demand that Lieberman be fired and the convention decisions nullified due to alleged irregularities in the proceedings.

Eitan said that at their meeting "Netanyahu would not discuss the Lieberman question before the inquiry. I repeated my position that Ivet was behind the entire convention plot. There is a whole system for which he is responsible."

Eitan said he told Netanyahu that "this is what the anger in the Likud is about - among those of us who oppose moves to topple Netanyahu. It is only the permanent opposition in the Likud of relentless Netanyahu foes like (MKs Ze'ev) Begin, (Dan) Meridor and (David) Re'em who are pursuing this personal vendetta against Netanyahu."

"We want the party rehabilitated," Eitan added. Hanegbi ascribed the Likud's ills to "a lack of trust on both sides. Ever since the Bar-On Affair, Netanyahu has been walking around with the feeling that some ministers are out to get him. Some ministers feel he has marked them for a political hit."

The anti-Netanyahu forces, meanwhile, consorted themselves yesterday with the news that Olmert and Milo has spoken to each other, after not being on speaking terms since Milo exposed the plan to split the Likud and leave Netanyahu effectively outside the party.

According to several Likud sources yesterday, Olmert and Milo agreed not to compete with each other for a post-Netanyahu Likud leadership.

The idea is that Olmert would seek nomination for prime minister within the Likud while Milo would seek an independent nomination.

Neither mayor would confirm this deal. Olmert did not even admit that he was in league with Milo.

See PM, Page 2

THE AGENDA

Dagan's urgent US mission

At the beginning of the week, the prime minister's adviser on terrorism, Maj.-Gen. Meir Dagan, was sent on an urgent mission to Washington: to campaign against the removal of Syria from the list of countries which encourage drug trafficking.

This was an attempt by Israel - confronting the FBI, the CIA, and the Department of the War against Terrorism in the State Department - to prove that the "gift" given to Assad due to a possible US confrontation with Iraq and the political standstill in Damascus-Jerusalem negotiations, was unjustified.

Jerusalem blames the Israeli Embassy in Washington for a lack of alertness: the ambassador appears to be asleep, while the political attaché seems to suffer from a chronic case of self-satisfaction. With relatively little effort, the embassy might have gotten wind of the US reversal regarding Syria, while there was still time to alert Israel's friends in Congress.

Perhaps the announcement about Syria was an inevitable outcome of the president's desire to signal Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu that his grace period had ended.

Another such signal, even more blatant and painful, was transmitted via the difficulty involved in "coordinating the schedules" of US President Bill Clinton and Netanyahu during the latter's visit to the US, even though both of them happened, coincidentally, to end up in Los Angeles on the same morning this week.

A third signal was sent from Doha to Cairo, where US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, in effect, placed responsibility for the partial boycott of the economic conference on Israel.

The hardest period is still ahead of us. At the beginning of next month - probably on December 8 - Netanyahu will be received by Clinton. This time it will not be a courtesy call, the sort which Netanyahu had hoped to be granted in LA.

According to sources in Washington, there is a good chance that Clinton, for the first time, will propose an American plan for compromise with the Palestinians. This he will do, among other things, by stressing American interests in the Middle East, and by attributing his difficulty in forming a coalition against Saddam Hussein to the peace process's impasse.

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Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu (right) listens to his Likud supporters yesterday at a meeting of the party's Knesset caucus, as chairman Meir Sheerit looks on. (Brian Hendler)

Sharon gives US final-status maps

By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON - National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon yesterday presented the US with maps outlining Israel's security and settlement concerns in a final-status arrangement with the Palestinians.

"Israel must retain several security zones in the territories in any final-status settlement," Sharon

told US National Security Adviser Sandy Berger in a White House meeting.

'Arafat is not sick,' Page 3

Among the zones to be retained are the Jordan Rift Valley, east-

west roads bisecting the territories, and water sources, an Israeli official said.

No statements were made after the one-hour meeting, following which Sharon flew on to New York.

The meeting dealt primarily with the Israeli-Palestinian track, but not on how to make the jump into final-status negotiations. The two also briefly covered the con-

tinuing crisis with Iraq.

The US is also working on its own plan for final-status arrangements, which will be presented to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu in his planned meeting next month with US President Bill Clinton.

According to a US source, the American plans will also be presented to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Health Ministry probes 'Fountain of Youth' drug

By JUDEY SIEGEL

The Health Ministry has begun to investigate the importers and marketers of a steroid hormone, DHEA, on suspicion of advertising false claims that the non-prescription product is a ministry-approved "revolutionary cure for impotence."

The Jerusalem Post yesterday brought the matter to the attention of the ministry's pharmaceuticals and food service divisions, and ministry spokesman Dudi Ben-Ami said officials would investigate whether there was a basis to file a complaint with the police or take legal action against the companies.

An ad for the Super DHEA "Men's Formula" appeared in the *Nashim* supplement of *Ma'ariv* on Monday. Marketing companies said the product, "which is being snatched off shelves in Europe and the US," is now on sale "with Health Ministry approval" in pharmacies, nature food stores, Superpharm and Clapham.

The ad claimed the formula was a "breakthrough for those suffer-

ing from erection difficulties due to physical or emotional causes" and "increases sexual activity and is an aphrodisiac."

The ad also claimed it was meant for "men with a low sperm count and fights the aging process."

Batya Haran, director of the ministry's pharmaceuticals division, and Raya Boyarsky, in charge of registering food supplements in the food service division, expressed shock that the companies would falsely claim to have ministry approval.

"This is terrible. Sales of DHEA are barred in Israel," they said. "There is no import license. We don't know how they got it in, but we will investigate." Haran promised, "If necessary, the product will be removed from store and pharmacy shelves and an order will be given at the ports to prevent its entry into the country."

Boyarsky noted that no food supplement may legally make therapeutic claims, and that no hormone may be sold as a food supplement.

See YOUTH, Page 2

Sentry tells Shahak: No entry

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Imagine sitting in a guard booth way past midnight in a base somewhere next to nowhere, when suddenly a car drives up and an officer gets out yelling at you to open the gate. Then the passenger door opens and out steps the chief of general staff on a surprise inspection.

Before dawn on Tuesday a young recruit found himself in this situation and stood his ground: he didn't let the general pass.

"I don't have a key to the gate so you can't come in," the guard was quoted as saying. After summoning his officer, she appeared, pale and flustered, clutching the key.

It wasn't the best reception Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak could have received, but it certainly could have been worse - had the guard been, well, not fully con-

scious. Shahak and his entourage eventually gained entrance to the training base, where they swept through the barracks, vehicle park, and buildings, telling them to tighten up the garbage detail before moving on to the next base.

A report of the nocturnal visit was first broadcast on Israel Radio by military reporter Carmela Menashe and was confirmed by military sources.

The IDF Spokesman initially said it was investigating the report, but then refused to comment on it. As chief of general staff, the late Moshe Dayan was known to perform similar surprise inspections, often driving himself across the country. This week's surprise inspection by Shahak will certainly have a number of base commanders losing sleep in anticipation of his next visit.



Amnon Lipkin-Shahak

(Brian Hendler)

NEWS

in brief

Sadat's widow makes call for peace

On the 20th anniversary of Egyptian president Anwar Sadat's groundbreaking visit to Jerusalem, his widow asked Arabs and Jews to forget the past and finally make peace.

"Both Arabs and Jews can come together and create a new civilization," Jihan Sadat told Israel Radio yesterday. "I wish really to see this peace ... I am sure I will see it in my lifetime."

Sadat's arrival in Jerusalem on November 19, 1977 marked the first ever visit by an Arab leader to Israel and set in motion the unfinished peace process. AP

PA panel checking Tzurif arrests

The Palestinian Legislative Council has formed a committee to investigate charges by Hamas that the Palestinian Authority handed over two Hamas militants to Israel last week, Palestinian sources said yesterday.

Hamas charges that the PA Preventive Security Apparatus, led by Col. Jibril Rajoub, arranged for the transfer of the two suspects, Ismail Ranimat, 25, and Gamal Jibril Albour, 27, as part of security cooperation with Israel. Rajoub has denied this. Ranimat and Albour are the alleged ringleaders of a cell blamed for a string of attacks that killed 11 Israelis and wounded 49, including five drive-by shootings and the bombing of the Aprogo Cafe in Tel Aviv in March.

Steve Rodan and Mohammed Najib

Two arrested in suspected spy case

The Petah Tikvah Magistrate's Court yesterday lifted a publication ban on a case of alleged espionage involving two men from Ashdod who were arrested in October and then released. Yosef Hirsch, 30, was arrested on suspicion of spying and contact with an enemy agent. He was released on October 30. Juhar Farhan, 37, was suspected of involvement in the same affair, and arrested on October 19 on suspicion of using a forged document. His arrest warrant says that Farhan immigrated to Israel using forged documents from Iraq, which indicated that he had a Jewish relative or a Jewish mother. He was released after questioning. *lim*

World's first surviving septuplets born in Iowa

The world's first surviving set of septuplets was born in an Iowa hospital yesterday, their grandfather announced. The mother, Bobbi McCaughey, 29, and her husband Kenny, 27, have already named the four boys and three girls. The couple also has a 2-year-old girl, Mikayla, who, like the septuplets, was conceived with the aid of the fertility drug, Pergonal. The babies weighed between 0.9 kg and 1.5 kg, with the boys weighing slightly more. Bob Hepworth, the mother's father, said. There are no known surviving septuplets in the world. The last septuplet birth in the United States occurred in 1985. Only three survived. *Reuters*

US troops 'routinely' train in Negev

By ARNOLD O'SULLIVAN

Elite US, naval and ground forces have been quietly carrying out exercises in the Negev this month, but US officials said the training had nothing to do with American preparations for a possible confrontation with Iraq.

"It is a routine, pre-planned, and periodic exercise," said Richard Scorza, a spokesman for the US Embassy in Tel Aviv. "It has nothing to do whatsoever" with the tensions over Iraq, Scorza said.

He said about 130 servicemen from the US Navy's Special Warfare Command and the US Army's Special Operations Detachment are taking part in the training. The troops are attached to the USS Guam, a helicopter carrier docked in Haifa.

Called "Boundary Waves," the exercise began on November 4 and is to end on November 25, said Lt. Ed Zigler, a public affairs officer for the Special Operations Command.

"The training consists of routine tasks normally assigned to special operation forces, with an emphasis on live-fire exercises," Zigler said,

adding that it has no relation to the situation in Iraq. Scorza said the date for the exercise had been set four months ago.

US forces routinely use Israeli firing grounds for training. Since strategic cooperation between Israel and the US began in earnest in 1983, the Americans have carried out over 90 exercises here, mostly in the Negev. The IDF provides the training grounds, tents, field toilets, and showers.

But both Israel and the US are not keen on publicizing the exercises. The IDF Spokesman refused to comment on the exercise and referred all queries to the US Embassy.

In contrast, the Pentagon routinely publicizes US participation in military exercises in Jordan and Egypt. Last month, US forces participated in joint maneuvers with the Egyptian army and other forces and the media were invited to watch. But in Israel, the IDF tried to prevent photographers from snapping the Marines.

"I had to use a long-range lens to take some photos," said Avi Malul, a photographer for *Ma'ariv*.

IRAQ

Continued from Page 1

"Iraq must not be allowed to threaten the world through the development of nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons. No outcome short of this is acceptable," she said.

UN arms experts told the Security Council yesterday that Iraq could produce mustard gas within several days or weeks in view of the suspension of arms inspections in the country.

The weapons inspectors also said that with the equipment Iraq is known to possess, it could produce 350 liters of weapons-grade anthrax bacteria each week, enough to fill two Al-Hussein missile warheads or four aerial bombs, according to papers obtained by Reuters.

They added that, with Iraq's admitted experience and know-how on large-scale production of biological warfare agents and with the fermenters and bioreactors and growth media on hand, "there is no limiting factor in Iraq with regard to the growth and production of BW agents."

The accounts were given to council members by Richard Butler, head of the UN Special Commission (UNSCOM) in charge of ridding Iraq of weapons of mass destruction.

US Ambassador Bill Richardson said yesterday that Iraq's weapons continue to pose a "grave threat" and show Baghdad is still in violation of Security Council resolutions. He said the council could not close its files in any of the fields, including ballistic missiles, where arms inspectors have destroyed

nearly all the Scuds imported to Iraq before the Gulf War.

Russia and France have said Iraq needs to see "a light at the end of the tunnel" — meaning a possibility the UN will eventually lift stringent oil embargo sanctions imposed on Iraq after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

"It's appropriate at this time for Saddam Hussein to comply with the requirements that have been placed upon him by the international community," State Department spokesman Mike McCurry told reporters yesterday. Pressed to restate the requirements, he included respect for the rights of Iraq's Kurdish population and for the Shi'ites in the south — a new element in the current dispute. He also implied that the US sees no hope Saddam could meet the conditions.

"If in other words he became someone other than the Saddam Hussein we've come to know and began to implement relevant resolutions ... that's the condition upon which the United Nations could very easily begin to move away from a sanctions regime," he said.

The US State Department yesterday issued a rare "worldwide caution" to US citizens abroad to beware of possible anti-American violence, because of a combination of recent Middle East and other events.

A public announcement listed the convictions this month of two foreigners in US courts, guerrilla attacks in Pakistan and Egypt, and "the general situation in the Middle East" as reasons to take extra care. It said US diplomatic posts worldwide are taking "appropriate security precautions," but gave no details.

MKs trek to Netanyahu's office in search of probe promise

By LIAT COLLINS

One by one ministers and senior MKs left the Knesset for the Prime Minister's Office across the road and came back to the House to report that he would likely support a thorough investigation into the events of the Likud convention last week.

First to make the journey was Deputy Defense Minister Silvan Shalom, followed by Science Minister Michael Eitan, Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani — who demanded a national unity government — and later by Likud whip Meir Sheetrit, Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, Environment and Agriculture Minister Raphael Eitan and others.

Today he is expected to meet with Communications Minister Limor Livnat and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert. The two briefly met in the Knesset cafeteria yesterday, where earlier this week she also met with Likud MK Dan Meridor.

Sheetrit said he expected Netanyahu to support the establishment of an investigating committee into the Likud convention and give it full backing and powers.

"I think that additional steps should also be taken to show that our party will be administered

objectively so that all Likud members will know it is nobody's political tool," Sheetrit said. "If the current situation continues — of fear by MKs that their political careers are marked by those with the power to break them — they have nothing to lose and it just pushes them over the edge. I think the prime minister understands this and will take the necessary action."

"An investigating committee will be established, to be headed probably by a judge, which will look into all the events of the Likud convention, without any restraints and with a completely free hand," Shalom said. "The prime minister has promised in advance to accept all the committee's recommendations, including those on personnel if there are any."

He said he saw this as a step forward. He avoided answering a direct question on whether the prime minister would fire the director-general of his office, Avigdor Lieberman.

Michael Eitan is demanding Lieberman be removed.

MK Raphael Pinhasi (Shas) yesterday backtracked from his perceived support for Labor leader Ehud Barak over Netanyahu. He said he favors a national unity government, and it is less important who heads it. But he said he is "disappointed" with Netanyahu.



Communications Minister Limor Livnat in the Knesset yesterday.

(Flash 90)

17 Likudniks needed for party split

By LIAT COLLINS

A further review by Knesset legal adviser Zvi Inbar of the regulations concerning a group breaking away from the Likud has found it would need at least 17 MKs to keep the name "Likud" and not 12 as previously stated. Even then, he stated, the group would have to take the triple-barreled name of "Likud-Gesher-Tsomet."

The request to reexamine the situation came from MK Michael Kleiner (Gesher), who said there is no legal basis for the previous ruling that 12 Likud MKs could leave the faction and keep the name and logo. The reason, according to Kleiner, is that before the elections the party ran as one list — Likud-Gesher-Tsomet — and



Science Minister Michael Eitan yesterday

(Flash 90)

was considered one party in every way. It cannot now be split into separate factions, he said.

In order for this to be possible, the party would have had to submit separate faction lists before the elections. At the time, it did not do so mainly for fear that Tsomet MKs would quickly break away, as they did in the previous Knesset. In this situation, Kleiner said, all the components of the Likud-Gesher-Tsomet Party belong to the whole party and not the individual factions.

"Even if there was a legal possibility of splitting the party into its components and the majority of the renegades were to get the name 'Likud,' money from the Party Funds Law would still be transferred to the existing party," he said.

In order to take the name Likud-Gesher-Tsomet, at least 17 of the 32 MKs in the party would have to split.

Bill to abolish religious councils passes preliminary reading

By LIAT COLLINS

When the word "reform" was mentioned in the Knesset yesterday during discussions on religious councils, it was not used to describe a stream of Judaism but the need to rethink the councils' structure.

Shortly after a meeting of the Knesset Interior Committee on the religious councils, the Knesset voted to pass preliminary reading of Labor MK Yona Yahav's bill to abolish the religious councils and transfer the responsibility for providing religious services to local councils. The bill passed 27 to 15.

The Interior Committee is considering proposals to abolish the appointment of salary-drawing deputy religious council heads, as the Zaddok Committee recommended; merging the councils into a regional unit; and privatizing kashrut supervision.

The committee, chaired by MK Salim Tarif (Labor), met with Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau and Eliahu Bakshi-Doron, as well as the deputy religious affairs ministers, Yigal Bibi (National Religious Party) and Aryeh Gamliel (Shas).

Lau said effort should be made to avoid politicizing the provision of religious services. Bakshi-Doron agreed, saying that the religious councils' current situation is not good.

"There are grounds for criticism and things must be put right," he said.

The committee decided to establish a subcommittee to draw up legislation to make the religious councils more efficient. Tarif, who is not Jewish, is to head the subcommittee.

"A true reform needs to be carried out," Tarif said. "It should work on the lines of the maxi-

Religious MKs fume at Antiquities bill failure

By LIAT COLLINS

The struggles within the Likud were apparent in the Knesset plenum yesterday where 10 bills were passed against government wishes and at least three government-supported bills were rejected in the absence of coalition MKs.

"The coalition today is orphaned. Unfortunately, with such a blundering coalition as this, it seems to me that from now on it will be the opposition which runs the country," Deputy Health Minister Shlomo Benizri (Shas), said in the plenum.

The most dramatic vote came after MK Moshe Gafni (United Torah Judaism) failed to win approval for a proposed amendment to the Antiquities Law. The amendment would have required the National Antiquities Authority to consult a ministerial committee before it could issue permits for archaeological digs in areas where graves are spotted.

The proposal fell by a vote of 28 to 38 after the opposition mobilized against it.

Gafni said he would consult with the Council of Torah Sages, claiming the government had violated a promise of support. Several Likud MKs — including Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, Silvan Shalom, Ruby Rivlin and Uzi Landau — left the room just before the vote. Referring to the upcoming budget debate, Gafni said he now would consider himself

unobliged to toe the Likud line.

He said that the government had not kept any promises on religious issues.

But Gafni later assured reporters that he wouldn't support leaving the coalition, saying there was no better alternative.

As Shas leader MK Aryeh Deri left the plenum, an onlooker said she had heard him say: "The Likud is trash."

Deri denied this and said he might have said that the "situation is the pits."

Likud whip Meir Sheetrit said said in the plenum that Deri's statement was a "provocation" and that he was surprised by his reaction.

Deri later added that the Likud was not a "true or trustworthy partner ... There is no leadership, there is no coalition, there is no unity."

The first opposition bill to pass a preliminary reading was introduced by MK Ephraim Oshaya (Labor). The bill would prevent anyone suffering from a mental illness from serving as prime minister.

Other bills which passed a preliminary reading were on the issues of foreign workers; taxes for divorced couples; rights of mental health patients, one which would charge companies for products wrapped in non-recyclable packaging; and a privatization bill that would require companies to offer 20 percent of shares to workers and pensioners.

'Afula Express' wins best film

Assaf Amir's film *Afula Express* won best film at the Israel Academy Awards held last night at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center. The film won a total of six awards, including best director, Julie Shlez, best actress Esty Zackheim and best supporting actors Arye Moskuna and Orly Perl.

Helen Koye

PM

Continued from Page 1

"I have always been a Likud man and will always remain a loyal Likud member," Olmert said.

David Rudge adds: Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai yesterday rejected the idea of ousting Netanyahu, although he did call for a Likud house cleaning.

He also intimated that he would support a national unity government if it were formed.

"The prime minister is the prime minister and will continue in his post," Mordechai said. "Everyone, together with the prime minister, should act against the negative and marginal phenomenon and continue to establish leadership and trustworthiness."

"I call on my friends in the Likud to seek the common denominator, unity and the way that together with the present coalition, and the opposition, to lead the country and supply the maximum possible in terms of state, security, economic and social needs," Mordechai said in the north.

"I don't think this is the time for splits, rebellion or soul-searching. I think it is the time, however, to seek those areas in which shortcomings were found.

YOUTH

Continued from Page 1

Asked why the food service division did not see the ad and initiate action by itself, division head Dr. Brian Coussin said he lacks the staff to monitor all the misleading and often illegal ads in the papers.

DHEA stands for dehydroepiandrosterone, which is naturally secreted by the adrenal glands, but the pill form is, in most cases, synthetic. Prof. Gideon Friedman, a senior physician and researcher in the internal medicine division of Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem, said his study of DHEA found that contrary to claims, it showed no therapeutic effects in clinical trials on the elderly. He said it has even showed some suppression of the immune system, which is undesirable.

It is known that at 65, the body produces only about 10 percent the DHEA produced by a younger body. "This has led to claims that it is a fountain of youth," Friedman said. "My colleague Dr. Ari Ben-Yehuda and I tried DHEA on aging mice, and found their immune systems improved. But mice don't produce this hormone at all. When we gave DHEA, in controlled, double-blind studies, to elderly getting anti-flu shots, we found the DHEA had no bene-

ficial effect in strengthening their immune systems to make the vaccine more effective," Friedman said.

The research, published this year in the prestigious *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*, has aroused much interest in the medical community. Friedman said he would not prescribe DHEA, as "we don't know what it's good for, and no one has any idea about the long-term effects and risks of such a substance. There is no medical proof that it is at all beneficial."

Calls to the marketing companies brought the information that "30 capsules of Men's Formula cost NIS 180; it is completely safe and natural, and it has Health Ministry approval." No one would identify the importer.

When asked for more information, Off-Shelpharm pharmacist Liat Kaufman said it "received approval from the Health Ministry's food service division."

In the US, DHEA is sold over the counter as well as by mail order through the Internet.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club took place yesterday at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street, Eliahu Ben-Moshe, Dept. of Demography and Census, Central Bureau of Statistics, addressed the club.

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- Proposal documents may be obtained from the Purchasing Department at Ben-Gurion International Airport, Main Passenger Terminal, 2nd floor, room 233, until December 1, 1997, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 12 noon.
- Proposals should be submitted in two copies and placed in the tenders box in the Archives of the Israel Airports Authority, Main Office, 2nd floor, room 113, Ben-Gurion International Airport, 70100, no later than December 18, 1997, at 10:00 a.m.
- The Israel Airports Authority is not obligated to accept the lowest or any proposal.

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Mordechai: IDF has changed its operational methods in Lebanon

By DAVID RUDGE

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai suggested yesterday that the IDF had made some changes in operational methods in south Lebanon, which have produced good results in the past two months.

Mordechai visited the western sector of the security zone yesterday morning after concluding an assessment of the south Lebanon situation with senior IDF officers.

Their main decision was that the IDF should remain in the security zone, as long as no agreement is reached with Lebanon and Syria to guarantee peace and quiet in the north.

According to security sources, certain tactical changes are being made in methods of

operation and in providing additional protection for outposts, tanks and vehicles used in the zone, with the aim of minimizing casualties.

There was also a decision to strengthen the South Lebanese Army which, according to the sources, is in good shape in terms of morale, number of soldiers and ethnic composition.

Mordechai, accompanied by Deputy Chief of Staff Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mo'az, OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine, and Uri Lubrani, the government's coordinator on Lebanon, visited an IDF position in the zone's western sector and met with infantry and armored corps troops, as well as SLA officers and soldiers.

Mordechai stressed that northern resi-

dents had been able to lead normal lives for most of the last 18 months, despite intensive activities in the zone which sometimes claimed a high price.

He said he had accepted the recommendations of General Command and Northern Command for a need to make tactical changes in methods of operation in south Lebanon.

"Up to now this has proved itself. In the past two months there have been important activities which have been conducted properly and produced results which I hope will continue," said Mordechai.

"We carried out a comprehensive assessment of the situation from the strategic-security point of view of what is best to do against the threats, statements and inten-

tions of the other side.

"The conclusion of the defense and security establishments is that under the present conditions and as long as there is no political change, ... the IDF's presence in the security zone and its activities there are vital and there's no alternative," Mordechai said. "Therefore we will have to continue to operate in the security zone."

"We will do what is necessary in order to give freedom of action to our soldiers, while at the same time stabilizing the situation to prevent a deterioration into unnecessary conflict," he added.

An SLA soldier, meanwhile, was slightly wounded in a roadside bomb in the Jezzine enclave, north of the zone yesterday. Hizbullah claimed responsibility.

PA backs off taking census in Jerusalem

By ELI WOHLGELER

The Palestinian Authority yesterday pulled back from a previously announced plan to take a census in east Jerusalem.

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics will not conduct this census within the east Jerusalem area at all," said Daoud Deek, assistant executive director for public affairs for the census. "I don't understand why the Israelis are protesting."

Deek responded to statements made Tuesday by Minister of Internal Security Avigdor Kahalani, that a planned PA census in Jerusalem would be in violation of the Oslo Accords, as well as a "blow to Israel's sovereignty over Jerusalem."

Kahalani had also called for "operational and political actions" to foil the census, including the addition of extra police and taking legal measures against PA census takers.

Among those who participated in the steering committee meeting with Kahalani on the issue were Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, Jerusalem Police District Cmdr. Yair Yitzhaki, IDF and General Security Service representatives.

The first census ever taken by the Palestinians is to involve some 5,000 census takers and is scheduled for December 10-24. Results are scheduled to be announced on January 4.

Formally known as the Palestinian Population, Housing and Establishments Census, the population count is to cover Palestinian self-rule

areas in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, or areas A, B, and C.

The government called on the PA on Monday to exclude Arab residents of east Jerusalem from the census.

David Bar-Ilan, director of communications for the Prime Minister's Office, said the government would prevent any Palestinian census taking in Jerusalem.

"I don't know by what means, but obviously we are not going to allow this to happen," Bar-Ilan had said. "This is a direct violation of the Oslo Accords, indeed a unilateral change of status, and we are not going to let it happen."

Deek said that the census would be "a civil exercise, and is not against any agreement — and the Israelis know that."

He alleged that Israel was protesting because "they are trying to give a political dimension to this census. I am astonished by these statements, because we have nothing to do within their municipality."

Deek said villages surrounding Jerusalem would be part of the census, including A-Ram, Bir Nabala, Hizme and Abu Dis.

A spokesman for the Civil Administration agreed that the PA census would be legal in areas A, B and C, but added that signs for the poll have been spotted in Jerusalem neighborhoods such as Abu-Tor.

Last month, the PA head of General Statistics, Hassan Abu Libde, was quoted by the Arabic newspaper *Al-Ayyam* as calling on Palestinians carrying Jerusalem identification cards to cooperate with census takers, adding that they had the option of withholding their identities and identification numbers.

"At the beginning they said they would go into every Arab neighborhood in Jerusalem," said Hagga Elias, spokesman for Olmert.

"Now they say not even one Arab neighborhood. We are sitting back and waiting."



Avigdor Kahalani (Isaac Harari)

Report: Two new terror groups form in Lebanon

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON — Two new anti-Israel terrorist groups, both linked to Hizbullah, have been formed in Lebanon, according to the London-based weekly newsletter *Foreign Report*.

One group, known as the Islamic Liberation Army (ILA), consists of non-Lebanese Sunni Muslims and is said to be supported by Iran.

The newsletter reported that a senior Iranian cleric representing Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Khamenei recently visited Lebanon to attend a "graduation ceremony" for the first batch, made up of Palestinians, Jordanians, Sudanese, Iraqis, Algerians and Egyptians.

According to the newsletter they will use Jordan as a base for launching attacks on Israel.

The second new group, known as the Lebanese Squads for Resistance against Israel, or simply Squads (al-Saraya), is also linked to Hizbullah and seeks to expel Israel from Lebanon. Unlike Hizbullah, however, it comprises fundamentalist Sunnis as well as Shias. Members are described as part-time guerrillas capable of firing mortars.



Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat and Labor MK Shimon Peres shake hands after their meeting at Arafat's Gaza City office yesterday.

Intelligence sources: PM, Hussein discuss Arafat's health

By STEVE RODAN

Palestinian Authority chief Yasser Arafat suffers from exhaustion, but does not have a degenerative disease such as Parkinson's, Western and Arab intelligence sources say.

The sources said Arafat works up to 20 hours a day and this has exacerbated the effects of his injuries in an April 1992 plane crash. But they said they have not detected any proof that he has Parkinson's or any other degenerative disease.

"We have looked very carefully at Arafat and we can't find anything more than he is getting older and works himself to the bone," said a US congressional staffer with access to intelligence information.

A Palestinian source with frequent access to Arafat agrees. "When he is tired, you find that his lips shake uncontrollably," he said. "But when he is rested he responds and looks like any other normal person."

The PA source said Arafat has resisted pleas from his confidants to rest more and feels that he must maintain control over all details affecting the PA. The source acknowledged that Arafat felt faint and was hospitalized over the past six weeks from what was termed "exhaustion."

The PA source, however, confirmed reports that Arafat's security chiefs have been jockeying for power in what appears to be the first stages of a succession struggle.

Arafat, 68, yesterday rejected reports he is suffering from Parkinson's.

"As you see what you can see, I am feeling well and in good health in spite of all the mass media propaganda against my health," he said following a meeting with former prime minister Shimon Peres. His lower lip quivered as he spoke.

Peres and Arafat discussed new projects meant to help the Palestinian economy. Peres called for the development of that economy free from Israeli security measures such as closures.

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's health was one of the main topics discussed at the Asot summit between Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and King Hussein, sources said yesterday.

The Jordanian monarch was described by them as being particularly concerned about "the post-Arafat era," implying that the line of succession within the PA is unclear and that the chairman's disability or departure from the political scene could cause instability, if not dissension and unrest.

This was one of the reasons given for Hussein's initiative in proposing a summit meeting with Netanyahu on his way home from the US.

Netanyahu briefed the cabinet on his talks with the king immediately after returning from London. Hussein evidently was interested in maximum discretion and minimal publicity, urging his

Israeli guest to leave the traveling press corps behind at the airport. As a result, there were no TV cameramen or still photographers on hand when the two leaders met.

Netanyahu's communications adviser, David Bar-Ilan, said three issues were discussed:

- the Iraqi crisis, which Netanyahu and Hussein hope will end without a military showdown;
- the peace process, with regard to which Netanyahu reportedly assured the king he intends "to make progress as fast as possible;"
- bilateral relations, especially joint development projects.

Netanyahu's desire to move forward in the peace process was tempered, however, by doubt the PA is taking sufficient action to crush the terrorist infrastructure. He reportedly pointed out that Ibrahim Makadmeh, who masterminded the 1994 Rehov Dizengoff bus bombing in Tel Aviv, was released from detention by the PA and is walking about freely in Gaza.

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

The putsch

Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo's exposure of the secret discussions held by him and prominent figures in the Likud to seek ways to kick Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu out of office received mixed commentaries in the press regarding its effect.

"Milo's conduct forced the Likud members to publicly expose their opinions regarding Netanyahu's performance," writes *Yediot Aharonot's* Nahum Barnea, who adds that Milo has managed to shake the foundations of the party.

Ma'ariv's Chemi Shalev said "Netanyahu has turned into a king without a kingdom," adding that with his return to Israel after his visit to England and the US, he must take immediate action or else he will turn into a lame duck. Shalev claims that Netanyahu might survive the MKs' attempts to dismiss him on the formal level, but "practically, it will be difficult for him to function while all those around him seek to get rid of him."

Gidon Samet of *Ha'aretz* believes that the entire struggle in the Likud revolves around self-interest instead of ideology.

"The war of greed is a dangerous threat to the nature of the government and its values," Samet writes, comparing Netanyahu to a man inflicted with Parkinson's, where his body trembles when he must make political decisions under the threat of losing his position.

"In the struggle for political life and death, we have the future of Bibi opposite the future of the state."

Egyptian terrorism

The scope of the terrorist attack in Luxor, claiming the lives of 60 tourists, "proves that the Islamic extremists rely, at least in southern Egypt, on an infrastructure backed by popular support," writes *Ma'ariv's* Yosef Lapid. He concludes that fundamentalism "is the common adversary of all those seeking peace in the Middle East." *Yediot's* Dov Ganchovsky

asserts that "those who endorse acts of terrorism outside their border shouldn't be surprised when it happens in their back yard."

He adds that the attack is a good reason for Israelis not to visit Egypt.

By hurting the tourist industry in Egypt, the Islamic extremists wage a war against the government, writes *Ma'ariv's* Oded Granot. "They are trying to overthrow the government and establish Islamic rule by shattering one of the building blocks of the Egyptian economy."

Sick health ministry

The dispute between the Finance and Health ministries regarding the number of job slots "is irrelevant in light of the suffering that the strike in the public hospitals is inflicting on the sick citizen," writes *Ma'ariv's* Yosef Lapid. He adds that the Health Ministry is riding on the backs of the patients, which is pure blackmail. *Ha'aretz's* Yoel Marcus

responds to Deputy Health Minister Shlomo Benizri's remark that the use of expensive medicine for AIDS patients is unnecessary, because it prolongs the life of the patients and increases the costs.

"The meaning of this opinion is that if you have been afflicted with a terminal disease, don't expect the state to waste its money on prolonging your life," Marcus writes, adding that "using this line of logic, wouldn't it be more effective to eliminate every diagnosed new terminal patient with a bang on the head?"

Noble intentions

The death of Palestinian boy Ali Juarish, killed by an IDF soldier, and whose organs were donated for transplant in other children, touched Hebrew commentators. "In the last few days we have been reminded that there are also human beings on the other side," writes Elyakim Hachtzi in *Yediot*. "This is a vaccine against blind hatred that first and foremost hurts those who hate."

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Poverty: A perceived sense of deprivation

IN CONTEXT / HERB KEINON

While the recently released statistics on poverty indicate that the number of people under the poverty line is dropping, social workers and academics say the gap between the country's rich and poor is growing much wider, something that should concern policy makers.

"The floor is going up slower than the ceiling, widening the gap between the haves and have not," said Eliezer Jaffe, a professor at Hebrew University's Baerwald School of Social Work and head of the Israel Free Loan Society.

The poverty line is relative to what is going on in the country," Jaffe said. "You can't compare Israeli poverty to Indian, Philippine, or even American poverty in certain states."

Poverty, in addition to being a statistical measure, is also a "perceived sense of deprivation," Jaffe said. "We are living in a society with tremendous communication, and we are pushing opportunities to people under the poverty line that they cannot reach."

"For instance, these people will

not be able to afford college education. This leads to frustration and a lot of feelings of disillusionment. These people are not going to be able to afford housing. There is much less intergenerational support — poor parents can't help children, and it keeps them stuck in the cycle of poverty."

Jaffe said that to the best of his knowledge there is no starvation in Israel, and that although there are growing numbers of homeless, it does not come close to the dimensions of the problem in the US.

Barbara Epstein, director of Community Advocacy - Genesis Israel, a Jerusalem-based social rights advocacy group that helps people access and protect entitlements, said that some people living under the poverty line — which the state has determined to be 50 percent of the average available income — have to steal food to eat, while others will go to the outdoor markets Friday afternoon looking for bargains.

"Many people eat Shabbat dinner with their parents every week, not

because they want to, but because they have to. There are people who can only afford meat once a week, or who send their children to school with butter or margarine sandwiches because they cannot afford anything else," she said.

Epstein said the poverty-line cutoff does not mean that those who earn NIS 100 or NIS 200 above this amount are having much of an easier time making ends meet, and that the number of people living in severe economic straits is more than the official numbers indicate. "What is NIS 100 more a month going to buy?" she asked. The poverty line for a single person is NIS 1,311 per month, after taxes, and for a family of four the figure is NIS 3,357 per month.

Epstein said the country should brace for an increase in poverty, as the money for social services, which has steadily increased from 1980 to 1996, is now leveling off. It takes money to fight poverty, she said, and a leveling off of funding means that in two years the country will be facing more poverty.

Fred Lazin, a Ben-Gurion University professor of social policy who has conducted a number of studies on poverty, said manifestations of poverty could be seen in the Negev recently following the Succot hail storm.

"My son works with appraisers," said Lazin, "and after the storm went to check out damage to apartments and fill out forms. There were cases where hot water heaters broke, and it may take up to three months to fix them because people don't have the money to pay."

"No one seems to be starving, but there are people who live with a lot less than most people are used to. I know that if my hot water heater broke, I'd fix it the next day," Lazin said. "Not everyone has that ability."

Lazin said it is unrealistic for a country to expect to completely wipe out poverty. "The US spent hundreds of millions of dollars on the war on poverty before the Reagan years, and never brought it down to below 10 or 12 percent," he said. "No society provides enough aid."



Russian immigrants demand public housing at a demonstration opposite the Knesset yesterday organized by a group called 'My Home is in Israel.' The mock coffins pose the question: 'A humane home in the national home?' (Brian Handberg)

Knesset marks 20 years since Sadat visit

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon opened yesterday's plenum session with a short statement marking 20 years since the visit by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat to Jerusalem and his now famous declaration in the Knesset: "No more war, no more bloodshed." Tichon yesterday sent a letter of condolence to his Egyptian counterpart over the Luxor massacre.

More gas mask info

Deputy Defense Minister Silvan Shalom told the Knesset yesterday it had been decided to add to or even double the number of information stations dealing with questions about gas masks and non-con-

ventional weapon protection kits.

Shalom said that currently there is not a high risk of a conflict between the US and Iraq, but nonetheless the Home Front Command is prepared for all eventualities.

He said there are enough gas masks kits to continue distributing them for several more months, despite the high demand, but said foreign workers and tourists had not been allocated them.

Pinochet visit

The Foreign Ministry objects to

AT THE KNESSET

The planned visit to Israel by Augusto Pinochet, but does not have the authority

to prevent it, as he was invited by a private company.

This was the answer Deputy Defense Minister Silvan Shalom gave, on the government's behalf, MKs Yossi Beilin (Labor), Salah Salim (Hadas) and Naomi Chazan (Meretz).

The Chilean chief-of-staff is considered responsible for the execution of some 3,000 and the torture of many more in the years he headed the regime in the 1970s.

Raviv to be investigated

Knesset Law Committee chairman Shaul Yabalon (National Religious Party) has asked Attorney-General Eliyahu Rubinstein to open an investigation into GSS agent Avishai Raviv following the publication of the previously classified material of the Shamgar Commission. Yabalon said the GSS had cast a shadow over the entire national camp via its handling of Raviv.

National Religious Party MK Hanan Porat threatened to petition the High Court if Rubinstein did not put Raviv on trial.

Shas threatens to vote against state budget

By LIAT COLLINS

Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai of Shas said yesterday he would recommend that his party not support next year's budget unless the Finance Ministry revised proposals to tax pensioners and cut child allowance benefits.

Yishai responded to several motions to the Knesset agenda on poverty.

Third Way whip Yehuda Harel said his party would condition support for the budget on govern-

ment backing for their bill to set up a state authority against poverty.

The plan calls for concentrating on setting up vocational and academic training for youth, adults, Arabs and haredim in poor areas.

"Paying out for unemployment and income supplements and so on keep the poor in slightly better conditions and improve the poverty statistics but do not take people out of the cycle of poverty," Harel said. "We must stop giving the poor fish but give them rods and teach them how to go fishing."

He said that in an increasingly high-tech based and privatized economy the under-educated would face increasingly larger problems and that unless intensive measures were taken, the number of poor could grow dramatically.

The plan awaits approval from the Finance Ministry and the prime minister. Harel called on Finance Minister Yaacov Neeman "not to give in to political pressure to direct funds towards specific sectors but to adopt the Third Way's plan which would serve the needy."

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'Jewish unity' eludes GA

By MARILYN HENRY

INDIANAPOLIS — American Jewish federations ended their annual General Assembly yesterday, after days of angst and admonitions over pluralism, in which the fund-raisers who live by the slogan "We are one" found themselves in an uncertain and divisive political fray.

They were told to butt in — and butt out — of the question of Reform and Conservative conversions in Israel. They were also told that Reform and Conservative Judaism were — and were not — attractive to Israelis.

There were calls for "Jewish unity," which could be achieved either by finding a compromise on the conversion issue or persuading the liberal streams of Judaism to swallow their grievances and stifle their dissent.

There were vigorous debates, with some Israeli officials working overtime to explain to many of the 4,000 delegates what the dispute over conversions was all about.

"There is a problem with *hasbara*," said Gideon Meir, the Foreign Ministry official for Diaspora affairs. He contended that "the question is not 'Who is a Jew?'"

The Council of Jewish Federations, representing more than 180 autonomous agen-

cies in North America, has historically tried to maneuver around political imbroglios so as to shield its mission of raising money and providing relief services.

In Indianapolis, however, forums were dominated by debate, calls for reconciliation, as well as the by-now usual invective.

"History will judge us all by how we respond to this challenge and responsibility," said Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman, head of the committee seeking a compromise on conversion. "Each stream of Judaism, without exception, has to come closer and unite for the well-being of the Jewish people."

One of the assembly's more electrifying moments came Tuesday at a small panel where David Landau, editor of the English version of *Ha'aretz*, told the Americans that their leaders were "dragging" them into a profound schism between American Jews and Israel.

"Stop, think before you are at the point of no return," he pleaded, suggesting that American Jewish support for Israel was conditional — and thus unreliable.

Landau also assailed the Americans for conveying a message that Israel was an "Iran, both fanatical and obscurantist."

"The crisis is not about religion," said Rabbi Jerome Epstein, executive vice president of the United Synagogue for Conservative Judaism. "For some, it's about power. For others, it's about winning."

The tragedy, he said, is that "out of this crisis, no one will become a better Zionist or a better Jew. We will not see the flourishing of Judaism," Epstein said.

Likening the Jews to a dysfunctional family, Rabbi Jacob Rubenstein, president of the Orthodox movement's Rabbinical Council of America, attacked the vitriol that rages from the pulpits, on the Internet and in full-page newspaper ads that "dismiss and degrade" other Jews, "exercising no restraint in inflaming people at their spiritual expense."

Clearly frustrated, Rubenstein said that despite a peace process that "lies dangerously dormant," and threats from the Gulf, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "has to sit there talking religion with a neurotic family."

The conversion question was for rabbis to discuss — not the Knesset, the United Jewish Appeal or the New Israel Fund, Rubenstein said. For Netanyahu and Labor Party leader Ehud Barak, both of whom addressed the

assembly, "that's politics," he said. "It will not do anything to stem the divisions here."

Then, with a jab at the Reform movement and the federation system, Rubenstein said: "We realized too late that we should have been talking years ago. I wish [the federations] had a big meeting when patrilineal was discussed." That was a reference to the American Reform movement's adoption of a generation ago of patrilineal descent as a legitimate standard of determining whether someone is Jewish. Patrilineal descent remains the single unbridgeable chasm between the Reform and Orthodox movements.

Delegates got a boost when US President Bill Clinton mentioned religious freedom in a brief satellite broadcast.

"Let us work together to expand religious freedom around the world," Clinton said. Uri Regev, director of the Reform movement's Israel Religious Action Center, said he was impressed with Clinton's call for a "campaign of virtue and principle."

"This United States of America was founded on the principle of religious freedom, and I hope American Jews won't settle for anything less when it comes to Israel."

NEWS

in brief

IMA sanctions continue

Operating rooms in the southern part of the country will be shut today except for emergencies, while in the north, diagnostic institutes and outpatient clinics will be closed.

The Israel Medical Association which is staging the sanctions to protest the government's failure to pay for 360 more doctors as promised in an agreement, defines the north as whatever is north of Kfar Sava, and south as all points south of that town.

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza accused the Treasury yesterday of trying to abrogate the National Health Insurance Law.

Judy Siegel

Kupat Holim guard dies of injuries

A 51-year-old guard who was assaulted and had his pistol robbed at a Maccabi health fund branch in Jaffa, died Tuesday of his injuries, according to reports yesterday.

Assaf Bakar, who was employed by the Amishav Company, was about to leave the clinic when he was attacked by several people on November 6. He was struck in the head and taken to Ichilov Hospital, where his condition deteriorated. Police said they were investigating but still had no suspects.

Itim

Kahalani tries to mediate Ramle feud

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani yesterday met with leaders from the feuding Jarussi and Karaji clans in a bid to end a dispute that has claimed 23 lives in the last five years. The Karajis are considering leaving Ramle's Jewish neighborhood, where both clans live. Kahalani said another meeting was expected in the next two days.

"It is possible to find a solution, at least a temporary one, in order to bring about a cease-fire until the two clans are separated," Kahalani said.

Itim

International Children's Rights Day today

The Education Ministry must do whatever it can to encourage young people to have more of a say in making decisions affecting their lives and studies, Education Minister Zevulun Hammer said yesterday to mark International Children's Rights Day, which is being marked today by the United Nations. Hammer also called for greater awareness of children's rights and to especially report incidents of child abuse or neglect. There are 53 organizations in Israel involved in children's and human rights in this country.

The main event commemorating International Children's Rights Day will take place today at the Arab-Jewish community center in Jaffa at 10 a.m., where lectures will be delivered on human rights in Israel, and there will be performances by youth groups.

Aryeh Dean Cohen

Peres gets honorary doctorate from Clark U.

Former prime minister Shimon Peres yesterday received an honorary doctorate from Clark University in a ceremony in Tel Aviv yesterday.

Peres was honored by the university, located in Massachusetts, for his contributions to the peace process. University Dean Thomas Massey said at the ceremony that "the presentation of the honorary doctorate to Shimon Peres pays tribute to Peres's wide vision of peace, which crosses cultures and countries — a vision shared by the university's program in Israel."

Clark University has had a program here for four years, with studies held in Tel Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Construction worker killed by falling bar

A 20-year-old construction worker was killed yesterday at a building site in the capital's Pisgat Ze'ev suburb. An iron bar fell off scaffolding and impaled his skull. The bar, 14mm in diameter, fell from the third floor of the building, from a height of some 10 meters, before striking him.

Itim

Dog ticks may carry fatal disease

By JUDY SIEGEL

One of the country's leading parasitologists urges veterinarians to inform dog owners about the dangers of ticks that can infect humans with Mediterranean spotted fever (MSF) — a disease that can be cured with antibiotics but in rare cases is fatal if left untreated.

During the past few weeks, two young dog owners — a man and a woman — died of the disease. There have been 14 such deaths during the past decade, and all of them are unnecessary, said Dr. Kosta Mumcuoglu, a senior parasitology researcher at the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Medicine.

Mumcuoglu said that vets might be reluctant to mention the risk of MSF to their customers; "it's not pleasant to tell someone that their dog could, directly or indirectly, kill him."

While the rabies virus is much more deadly than the *Rickettsia conorii* bacteria that cause MSF, anyone knows when he's been bitten by a rabid animal, but recognizing the tiny dog ticks is very difficult, the parasitologist said.

A different type of bacteria causes Rocky Mountain spotted fever, which exists in the US.

"The dog population is increasing, the ticks are difficult to see, and in suitable warm and humid conditions in homes, the parasites can multiply and establish themselves."

The Health Ministry yesterday sent a circular to directors of all general hospitals and emergency rooms refreshing their memories about RSF. The clinical symptoms include fever, head and muscle aches and chills for a few days up to two weeks — very much like the flu — with a rash of red spots beginning on the palms of the hands and soles of the feet and then spreading all over the body. They disappear after a few days.

People with these symptoms who have been in contact with dogs (it is almost unknown in cats) should immediately inform their doctor. If treated with tetracycline, the bacteria are overcome; if not, 20% can die from shock or kidney failure.

Mumcuoglu suggested that the number of actual infections must be considerably greater than those reported, but since "most people take antibiotics at some time or another, the drug could have killed the bacteria without them knowing it."

Mumcuoglu explained that dogs which remain at home or in urban areas are unlikely to be infected, but if they romp in fields or woods they can pick up the *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* ticks, which like to hide in or around their ears. After taking a dog to such places, he should be well examined and ticks removed with a tweezer. In any case, a dog's anti-tick collar should be replaced every three months.

The ticks are yellow and about two millimeters long between meals of blood, but swell up to a full centimeter and turn red or brown when engorged.

They can attach themselves to any part of the human body, but particularly prefer hairy areas.



Board meeting

President Ezer Weizman (left) gives some playing tips to visiting world chess champion Garry Kasparov yesterday at Beit Hanassi. Kasparov is here to attend today's board of trustees meeting of the International Chess Academy in Tel Aviv. (Itim Harel)

Conference to focus on reducing road accidents

By ALLISON KAPLAN SOMMER

The automobiles won't allow drivers to get too close to the car in front of them; the roads force drivers to slow down; and video equipment systematically records the license plates of those committing traffic infractions. These are some of the ideas that are being experimented with around the world in the fight against traffic accidents, and which will be on display at a Tel Aviv conference on the subject beginning next week.

More than 100 experts from 22 countries will bring their ideas to the Fourth International Conference on Safety and the Environment in the 21st century which takes place at the Dan Panorama from next Monday to Wednesday.

"We Jews sometimes think that we know everything, but on this subject, we can learn a lot from the rest of the world," said Buma Barchad, secretary-general of the Israel National Council for the Prevention of Accidents, which is sponsoring the conference. "If we keep our minds open, accept the fact that we have to study and change, and not insist on doing things the way that we always have, we can accomplish a great deal."

Shalom Hakkert, an associate professor of civil engineering at the Technion and one of the con-

Small signs of improvement

	Jan.- Oct. 1996	Jan.- Oct. 1997	Percentage change
Accidents with injuries	21,465	20,701	-3.6
Number of people injured	39,282	38,019	-3.2

Source: The Israel National Council for the Prevention of Accidents

ference's organizers, said that the event will open by examining the experiences of countries which have significantly reduced the number of road fatalities over 5-10 years.

The safety levels of privately operated toll roads also is to be discussed at the conference. The controversial Trans-Israel Highway is set to be turned over to a private contractor.

The design and operation of a highway, Hakkert said, can be a key element in the number of road fatalities. In Israel "one-third of fatalities on intercity highways are one-car accidents, where the driver, for whatever reason, strayed off of the road. This doesn't have to happen. If a highway is

designed right, such a circumstance does not have to end in death."

Barchad praised the increased awareness of the need for better driving in Israel. The National Council's mission is to "make sure the war against accidents is operated in a systematic and organized manner, coordinating all of the activities relating to the area," he said.

The biggest challenge, he said, is addressing the large percentage of accidents that take place within the municipal limits of various cities.

"If we can get through to a mayor, and the mayor decides to take the subject seriously, a great deal can be accomplished," he said.

Teachers step up sanctions

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

The Secondary School Teachers Association yesterday stepped up sanctions in its ongoing battle over payment for accompanying school trips.

Meanwhile, association chairman Ran Erez has accused the Education Ministry of encouraging recent strikes by pupils throughout the country.

As of yesterday morning, teachers are not permitting Education Ministry employees other than teachers and principals to enter the schools. Principals and teachers are to explain to these employees that they are not welcome in the school, and if they insist on entering classes will be immediately shut down, a spokeswoman for the association said.

Pupils themselves will be the most seriously affected by the teachers' decision to also put a halt to any social or cultural activities in schools. "They will only have regular classes," the spokeswoman said, noting that this step is being taken to prevent recent

occurrences where army personnel have come to the school for pre-army gatherings with pupils, since the teachers refuse to accompany pupils to these sessions.

Teachers and principals will also stop passing ongoing reports — except attendance rolls for pupils and teachers — to the Education Ministry.

At a press conference in Tel Aviv to announce the new sanctions yesterday, Erez charged that the recent spate of strikes by pupils was encouraged by the Education Ministry and that ministry supervisors had a hand in directing such activities.

Erez also said that Education Minister Zevulun Hammer's presence "isn't felt in the system," and he is either incapable of doing anything about the situation or "doesn't care about it."

There is no leader at the helm, Erez said, and association members said the Finance Ministry and not the Education Ministry is running the school system. Hammer rejected the teachers' charges, saying they had rejected all attempts at compromise.

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Ida Huberman

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ETV employees pleased by chief's resignation

By HELEN KAYE and ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Educational Television employees are relieved at director-general Ahuva Feinmesser's resignation, a source at the trouble-plagued station said yesterday.

Education Minister Zevulun Hammer's new appointee for the post is Moti Sklar, currently the principal of the Ma'aleh College of Communications, a religious institution. Hammer intends to present Sklar's nomination to the cabinet on Sunday for confirmation.

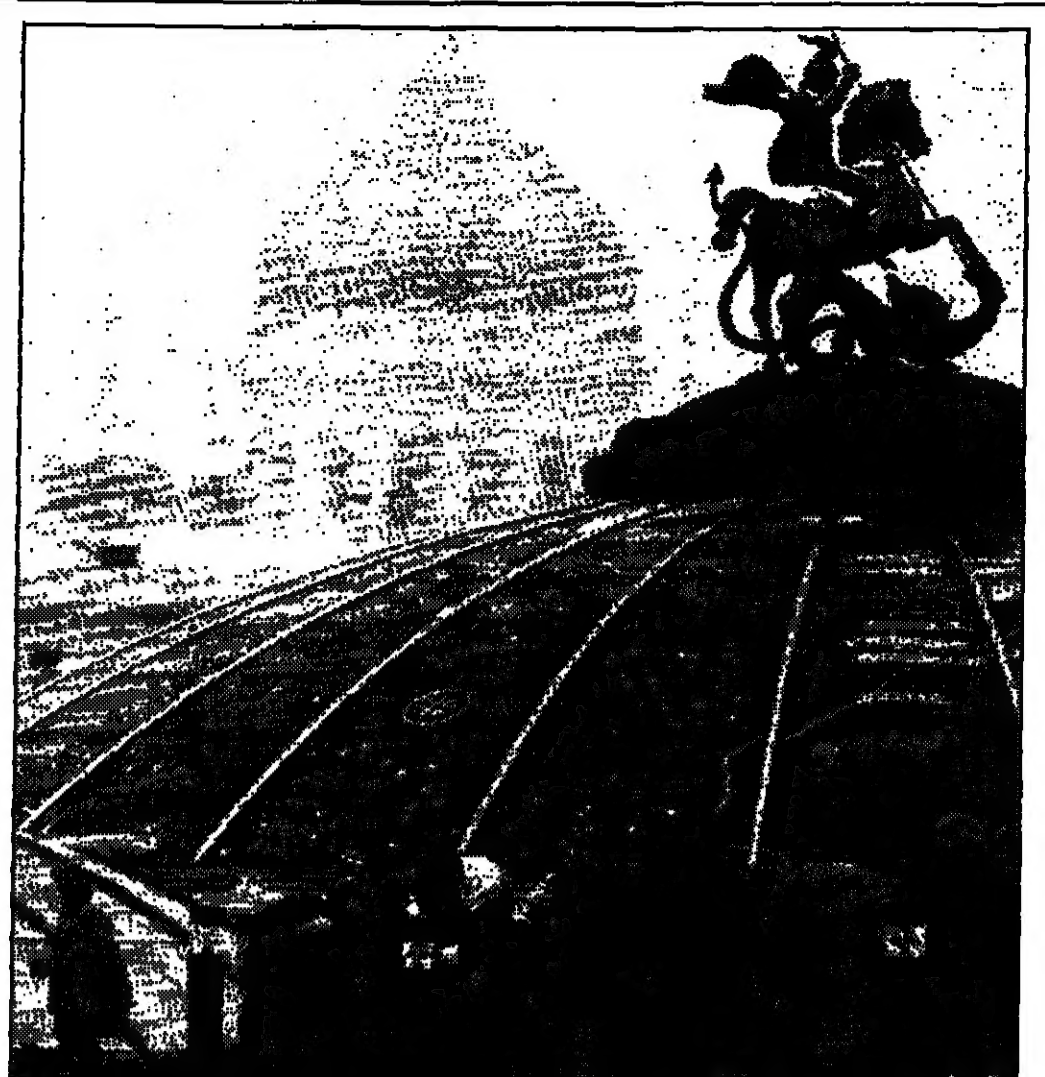
"One of the main complaints [against Feinmesser, who was appointed by former education minister Amnon Rubinstein] has always been that she has no media background," the source said. "While she has been under pressure to save money, her cuts have had the wrong priorities, with a lot of money being spent on programs that get good ratings. People here think she was too ratings-conscious."

ETV is not doing the programming it should be, such as the sole Arabic language children's program that "Feinmesser cut at the first

opportunity, or a scheduled series on Judaism with emphasis on the holidays that she canceled," the source said.

Sklar yesterday said that as a nominee he could not and would not say what his policies might be at ETV.

Regarding his possible attitude toward controversial programming on ETV, such as the program on homosexual youth that Hammer tried to block, Sklar said "there are no a priori criteria. I am for broadcasting everything provided it does not violate humanist principles."



Moscow goes glitzy

Muscovites yesterday admire the glass dome with a statue of St. George, the city's symbol, above a new underground shopping complex outside the Kremlin on Manezh Square. (AP)

Zeroing in on the ruble

Having beaten hyper-inflation Moscow prepares to re-model the currency which is also an emblem of Russian history

By KATHY LALLY

MOSCOW — Anna Ivanovna Rutskeya, guardian of Russia's monetary past, heaves a delicate shoulder against the steel door that keeps thieves and other meddlesome visitors out of her museum. Several shoves later, the door creaks open, and Rutskeya admits the rare outsider to the monetary museum, hidden off a quiet corridor on the second floor of Russia's turn-of-the-century Central Bank building in old Moscow.

"It's all here," she says. "On paper money you can see all the fluctuations of our economy and society, all the surges and falls. Our Russian history is very rich." That history is about to take another twist. On January 1, the government plans to come to terms — if only emotionally — with the inflation that has impoverished the Russian people since the Soviet Union dissolved on December 31, 1991.

The Central Bank will lop three zeros off the ruble and issue new notes reflecting the redenomination. Overnight, 50,000 rubles will turn into 50. Ten thousand rubles will become 10.

"Maybe once again we can buy something for 15 kopecks," says Rutskeya, recalling the price of a subway ride in 1991.

That ride costs 2,500 rubles today. With redenomination, the price will be 2 rubles 50 kopecks in January.

The old and new rubles are to circulate simultaneously throughout 1998, in an attempt

gan "Workers of the world unite" printed in Russian, Chinese, English, Japanese, French and Italian.

Lenin appeared on money in 1938 and stayed there until 1992, through war, peace, Cold

one quickly sees what the local factory makes. People stand along the roadside selling it, having received it for pay: tablecloths in one town, plastic buckets in the next, pottery in yet another.

Rachilin's favorite money was issued during the civil war, after the Revolution, when beauty salons, churches, railways and cafes all issued their own money.

During the late Soviet years, the ruble was set at 25 to the dollar for tourist use and at 1.7 to the dollar for many official payments.

As controls were taken off, the ruble steadily lost value: to 125 to the dollar by July 1992; 493 in January 1993; 1,560 in 1994.

Today, the exchange rate is 5,800 rubles to the dollar. Ordinary calculations run into the millions: the average monthly salary, for example is 1,230,000 rubles — \$212.

Many Russians are nervous about the coming change. They remember 1961, when currency reform accompanied a drop in purchasing power. "Previous monetary reforms have injured our people to the idea that the state intends to better its own position at their expense," says Sergei Dubinin, chairman of the Central Bank. "It is quite natural that such a measure arouses many questions."

Dubinin promises that bank accounts and purchasing power will be untouched, though he concedes that other dangers accompany reform. "The real threat to our people's purses comes not from the state but from swindlers," he says, predicting that con artists will persuade some people that the new money is better than the old and will offer to relieve them of the old ones at less than face value.

Dubinin had barely spoken before reports were coming in from the rural Orlovskaya region of central Russia that some fast talkers had told elderly people that the monetary reform meant reintroduction of the Soviet ruble.

Blinded by nostalgia, several elderly villagers traded eggs and chickens for the old, worthless rubles.

(Baltimore Sun)

to forestall any panic over the change. At the end of 1998, the old rubles will be withdrawn.

Over at the museum, the money of two centuries lies in glass cases, silently testifying to the convulsions of war, famine and revolution that have accompanied earlier monetary reforms.

Over the years, the money has sometimes been grandiose, sometimes self-effacing. In the early 1920s, some bills were about the size of postage stamps.

The first paper money was issued in 1763, in the reign of Catherine the Great. The faces of czars turned up in 1860.

In 1919, the hammer and sickle appeared on the new rubles, along with the revolutionary slogan

War, redenominations and the collapse of the Soviet Union. From time to time, other images were introduced but Lenin could always be found on some of the money. The death of the Soviet Union toppled him. In 1993, the Russian government replaced him with images of Russia.

Last March the 500,000 bill came out, depicting a 15th-century monastery on Solovetsky Island. The picture was from an era when the monastery was used as a Soviet prison camp. Deemed too expensive to change, the picture has not been replaced.

In the interest of continuity and economy, the money being issued in January will look just like today's money, but with fewer zeros. Rachilin says the country's leadership didn't have the courage to shear the ruble of four zeros instead of three. "If they dropped off four, the exchange rate would be the same as before perestroika," he says. "If you drop off four, you would immediately see what kind of chaos we live in now."

Before perestroika, a pension was 120 rubles a month. If you take four zeros off today, the pension would be 35 rubles. Everyone would immediately see the difference between 120 rubles then and 35 rubles now. This calculation applies to everything. Monetarily speaking, Rachilin says, the last years have not been very different from war years. Factories often dispense with the ruble altogether and pay their workers in whatever they produce — dishes, soap, tampons, bras.

Driving through a small town,

The cinematic Fort Knox

By RICHARD TAPSCOTT

Think of it as a variation on beating swords into plowshares.

Instead of harboring federal officials after a nuclear holocaust, a 140,000-square-foot bunker carved into a mountainside near Culpeper, Virginia, is destined to shelter and preserve films for the Library of Congress and the movie-loving world.

Before it recessed last week, Congress cleared the way for ownership of the once-top-secret installation about 70 miles southwest of Washington to pass from the Federal Reserve Bank in Richmond to the Library of Congress. It then will become a central repository for the library's 150,000 film titles, including an almost complete run of productions from Thomas A. Edison from 1897 to 1905.

The installation, which consists of three levels inside hollowed-out Mount Pony, began its life in the 1960s as a high-security refuge for about 125 officials from Washington and the Richmond bank, who were to assemble there in case of a nuclear attack to help rebuild the country's economy and banking system. The radiation-proof facility had planned menus for the first 30 days of occupation.

For a time, its vaults also were used to stockpile gold and US currency to be used in case the old Bureau of Engraving and Printing was damaged by fire or other disaster.

More recently, said Gwen Byer, an assistant vice-president at the Richmond federal reserve, the complex, which has a 10,000-square-foot computer room and is called the Communication and Records Center, was a backup data processing site for 10 federal reserve districts.

Now it has only a minimal staff, mostly involved in maintenance, she said.

A real estate brochure notes that the property was designed to be "self-sustaining," with its own wells. "The property offers such unique features as a helicopter landing pad, an indoor pistol range, an incinerator, maintenance shops and a cafeteria," the brochure

reads.

Under terms of legislation approved last week, the \$5.5 million needed to buy the 41-acre installation will come from a donation by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, which also will contribute \$4.5m. to equip, maintain and upgrade the facilities to house the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division of the Library of Congress.

"The Culpeper facility is perfect," said Rep. Thomas J. Bliley Jr., R-Va., whose district includes the Mount Pony area.

Sen. John W. Warner, R-Va., said the former uses of the complex represented "prudent planning, given the uncertainty of our strategic situation at the time." But since the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union, the nuclear threat has all but disappeared and left the unusual structure something of a white elephant.

"Just by coincidence, the structure meets the needs of the Library of Congress," Warner said.

Congress has mandated that the library preserve the massive film collection, which has been stored in various temperature- and humidity-controlled areas in Washington, suburban Maryland and the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio.

The collection includes 500,000 cans of "safety" film and 110,000 cans of older, more brittle stocks, along with nearly 85,000 titles from television and 2.5 million sound recordings. Among major collections are German, Japanese and Italian films seized or purchased during World War II, and thousands of films from major commercial studios dating back to 1914.

By consolidating the collection in one place, archivists say they can prevent shipping damage and better preserve what is on hand.

Eventually, the library expects to have about 75 employees at the site and hopes to be able to make the films available to the public at the main Library of Congress building in Washington through fiber-optic cables from Culpeper. (The Washington Post)

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Tourists relive Luxor massacre

LONDON (Reuters) - British tourists described how they covered behind pillars at Egypt's Hatshepsut temple and looked on helplessly as holidaymakers were gunned down or had their throats cut by Islamic militants.

Stuart Bentley, 23, arrived at the temple an hour before the start of the massacre. He hid behind a pillar on the upper floor of the temple as a gunman dressed in black shot a European tourist in the legs as he tried to flee.

"He rolled over and clasped his hands together as if he was begging for his life but the man with the gun just cut his throat and began firing again," Bentley told reporters. "They were screaming and shooting indiscriminately at anything that moved. It was a lottery where some were spared and some shot. It was just like something out of a war zone. I felt physically sick, the bodies were resting on top of one another."

David and Sheila Middleton hid in a gully with their heads in the dust while their friends George and Ivy Wigham were shot dead meters away. "It was a scene from hell which I will never forget as long as I live," said David Middleton.

The Wighams were among six Britons killed in the massacre. A five-year-old girl, her mother and grandmother were also gunned down, along with 26-year-old air stewardess Sylvia Wilder.

One of the Britons returning from Egypt told how he had found Wilder's grief-stricken boyfriend sitting alone at Luxor airport. "When the shooting started they ran for cover and she just didn't make it. He told me she was shot through the face and killed in an instant. He managed to get into a cave and was cowering while bullets were ricocheting around him," said witness Alastair Glenville.

Egyptian president says Luxor security was 'a joke' Mubarak shakes up security apparatus

By TAREK EL-TABLAU

LUXOR, Egypt (AP) - Surrounded by beefed-up police patrols, merchants and workers wondered if increased security yesterday after the massacre of 58 foreigners would save the tourist industry that supports them.

The massacre by Islamic militants - the deadliest attack in their five-year rebellion to oust the secular government - is a clear threat to the tourism essential to Egypt's economy.

Luxor, with its hundreds of temples and tombs, is one of the most popular stops for sightseers.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who deployed more police immediately after Monday's slaughter, was now replacing top security officials in this southern city, police sources said yesterday, speaking on condition of anonymity.

In Cairo, the sources said, top ministers were being demoted or shifted to other jobs, a move that follows Mubarak's replacement Tuesday of the interior minister, who supervises the nation's police force.

"Didn't anyone know security was loose before?" asked Luxor shopkeeper Raafat Mohammed.

"The idea of security up till now has been to set up a few guard posts on the west bank and put two tired policemen by the site," he said yesterday, referring to the Temple of Hatshepsut, on the west bank of the Nile, where the massacre took place.

"This isn't security," he complained. "It's stupidity. And it could cost all our livelihoods."

Mubarak himself visited the temple on Tuesday pronounced security there to be "a joke."

Mamdouh Hussein, a salesman at a spice shop, said he hoped the security improvements weren't just temporary and that tourists

would be reassured that the city was safe.

"Everything in Luxor depends on tourism," he said. "Without it there is no money for anyone."

Cafe worker Abdul-Rahman Taha agreed: "If tourists don't feel confident that we can protect them, they won't come."

The attack's immediate impact was evident Tuesday night, when only a few foreigners were out in Luxor. Normally, sightseers crowd the pavements.

After touring the Valley of the Kings and Karnak Temple, they stroll the town in the cool evenings, stopping for drinks and souvenirs.

The outlawed al-Gamaa al-Islamiya, or Islamic Group, claimed responsibility for the attack late Tuesday in a fax to a Western news agency, saying it had been seeking the release of Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman, who is jailed in the US for his role in a failed plot to blow up the United Nations building and other New York landmarks.

Since 1992, al-Gamaa and other radical groups have been waging an insurgency to overthrow Egypt's secular government and impose strict Islamic rule.

The message sought to shift blame for the high casualties - which totaled 62, including two Egyptian policemen and two civilians - on to the police force. It said the gunmen's "brave" attempt to merely kidnap foreigners went awry because police opened fire too quickly, forcing militants to return fire. It accused police of showing negligence toward the safety of tourists.

"The government forces dealt lightly with the lives of the tourists and the citizens, leading to the falling of this great number of dead," it said.

Witnesses, however, said the six gunmen opened fire as soon as

they entered the temple grounds, spraying wildly with automatic weapons. One Swiss survivor said the "very young" gunmen calmly shot victims who had dived to the ground or run for cover behind temple pillars.

Police gunned down one attacker at the site and the five others after they hijacked a bus. Authorities counted only six gunmen, but the al-Gamaa statement said nine others escaped.

Last year, al-Gamaa took responsibility for killing 16 Greek tourists at a hotel near the pyramids on the edge of Cairo. The group also claimed an assassination attempt on Mubarak while he was visiting Ethiopia in June 1995; he was unharmed.

The government has arrested and jailed thousands of suspected Islamic radicals, put hundreds on trial and executed 63 people in the past five years. But al-Gamaa and similar radical groups are difficult to fight because of their small, loosely connected cells.

According to police, the tourist slain Monday were 31 Swiss, eight Japanese, five Germans, four Britons - including a child - a Bulgarian, a Colombian and a French citizen.

Earlier police reports said seven of the dead were still unidentified. But Cairo airport officials, speaking on customary anonymity, said 34 Swiss bodies were flown out of the country yesterday, indicating that at least three of the unidentified dead may have been Swiss.

Twenty-four people were wounded in Monday's attack. Tourists have warily returned to marvel at the sandstone terraces of the temple, now bloodstained and bullet scarred. But hundreds of foreign travelers have fled the country, and tour agents worldwide canceled thousands of bookings - spelling trouble for Egypt's important tourism industry.



Queen Beatrix of Holland speaks with the Director of The Giza Plateau Zahi Hawas, on the last day of her trip to Cairo, yesterday. (AP)

Following Russian book-fee scandal

Chubais set to resign as finance minister

By SERGEI SHARGORODSKY

MOSCOW (AP) - First Deputy Prime Minister Anatoly Chubais, the country's top economic official, will give up one of his posts as part of efforts to end a political scandal over book fees, senior lawmakers said yesterday.

The Communists and other hard-line opposition groups have been demanding Chubais' dismissal from all posts and had

made his removal a condition for passing the 1998 budget, but President Boris Yeltsin's administration refused. Critics have charged that a \$90,000 advance Chubais accepted from a bank to write a book was a bribe.

Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin struck a deal with parliamentary leaders under which the opposition, which dominates the Duma, or lower chamber of parliament, would no longer make Chubais' removal

from the government a condition for passing the budget, lawmakers said. No details of the deal were given.

But Grigory Yavlinsky, head of the liberal Yabloko faction in the Duma, said Chernomyrdin told him that Chubais would give up the finance minister's post, but remain as first deputy prime minister. The loss of the finance post would be a largely symbolic concession to the opposition.

Alexander Shokhin, who heads

the pro-government faction, said Chubais is likely to give up the finance post this week.

It was not clear whether the plan would satisfy the opposition, or if they would insist on Chubais' eventual dismissal from all posts. Duma speaker Gennady Seleznyov, a Communist, said the Duma was unlikely to accept such a "partial decision" on Chubais.

The Duma is scheduled to debate the budget Friday. On

Wednesday, it might adopt a non-binding appeal to Yeltsin to accept Chubais' resignation.

"That would be a pure recommendation," noted Yeltsin's spokesman, Sergei Yastrzhembsky.

Chubais and several associates each accepted \$90,000 advances for a yet unwritten book on privatization in Russia. Seeking to suppress the furor, Yeltsin dismissed three other officials who were to co-author the book.

Far-right gains in Denmark elections

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) - A new far-right party made a strong showing in its first-ever elections, capitalizing on growing anti-immigrant sentiment in traditionally tolerant Denmark.

The new Danish People's Party, which opposes the government's liberal immigration policy, won 6.8 percent of the votes in Tuesday's local elections, complete results showed yesterday.

Prime Minister Poul Nyrup Rasmussen's Social Democrats party fell slightly in popularity to 33.1%, down from 34.3% in the 1993 local elections. It was the Social Democrats' worst showing in municipal elections.

The advance of the Danish People's Party was a "last warning" to the Social Democrat-led government before parliamentary elections, the *Ekstra Bladet* daily said yesterday.

If the government fails to tighten its immigration policy "then it will get it in the neck," the paper cautioned.

The local elections in 275 municipalities were seen as an indicator of the political mood in

the country, which must hold national elections by September.

The Danish People's Party was formed in 1995 when it split from the rightist Progress Party. The new party apparently lured away many supporters of the Progress Party, which won only 1.8% of the votes Tuesday - down from 5.1% four years ago.

The prime minister refused to say when he would call a general election, but the election result was likely to make him delay it as long as possible, several major dailies said.

Leading up to the elections, opinion polls had predicted a strong showing for the far-right because of growing anti-immigrant sentiment, even though immigrants make up less than 5% of Denmark's 5.2 million people.

The Liberal-Conservative opposition fell slightly in popularity. The Liberal Party won 25% of the votes, down 2.2 percentage points from 1993. The Conservatives were down 0.7 percentage points with 12.1% of the votes, according to Interior Ministry figures.

Turnout was 73.7%, up slightly from the 1993 elections.

FBI: Russian crime 'manageable'

By CHRISTINA LING

MOSCOW (Reuters) - FBI director Louis Freeh yesterday praised US-Russian cooperation in fighting crime and denied that Russian criminal groups posed a threat to American national security.

"Crimes by Russians or Russian groups do not threaten the domestic or national security of the United States, and compared to other crimes are on a very low level," Freeh told a news conference.

Last month Freeh told the US Congress that such crimes posed a "really immense" problem, threatening reform in Russia and "intrinsic dangers" to the United States.

But Freeh said his remarks had been blown out of proportion. He praised Russia's effectiveness in solving domestic murders and contract killings as well as cooperation on a number of high-profile cases in the United States.

He pointed to the example of Russian organized crime leader Vyacheslav Ivankov, sentenced in the US in January to 115 months in prison for extortion and other crimes.

"Ivankov, for instance, poses a serious threat to the United States as well as to Russia because he is a very powerful, very dangerous organized crime leader, but that doesn't mean that those are problems that we can't control," Freeh said.

Freeh and Russian Interior Minister Anatoly Kulikov hailed increasingly concrete and constructive cooperation in dealing with financial and computer-related crime, drug trafficking and kidnapping.

"Between our two agencies there are absolutely no differences," said Kulikov, who had previously suggested that US warnings about the power of Russian criminal groups were calculated to scare off foreign investors.

Russia's crime rate has rocketed since the collapse of centralized communist control and the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1991.

"We work very collaboratively and very effectively in all major areas and the drug area is one which obviously has a very high priority for both of us," Freeh said.

Kulikov said that 80 percent more

drug-trafficking cases had been solved in the first 10 months of 1997 than last year.

Freeh said that past serious incidents of stolen radioactive materials in the former Soviet bloc gave grounds for vigilance, but so far there was no concrete cause for concern.

"We have not seen any documented connections between, for instance, organized crime groups and the trafficking of radioactive materials," he said.

Western governments worry that material stolen in the former Soviet bloc could put atomic weapons within the reach of non-nuclear states. Security at Russia's cash-strapped research institutes and military bases has caused concern.

Russia said last week it had detained an Iranian spy who tried to buy missile technology designs, earning kudos from the United States, which accuses Iran of backing terrorism.

The United States and Israel have expressed concern that Russian groups were helping Tehran to acquire missiles or missile technology, something Moscow denies.

India bomb kills 23

HYDERABAD, India (Reuters) - At least 23 people died in a car bomb blast near a movie studio in the southern Indian city of Hyderabad yesterday, police said.

About 35 people were also wounded when the bomb, which had been planted in a parked jeep, exploded at midday as a convoy of cars arrived for the first shot of a new film.

"Twenty-three people have died so far," said H.J. Dora, director general of police in Hyderabad. "We have to find out how it was triggered. But the impact of the blast was very high. Many buildings have been affected."

Andhra Pradesh's Home (Interior) Minister A. Madhava Reddy said the

bomb was set off by remote control.

Reddy said the injured included movie actor Mohanbabu, who is also a member of the upper house of India's parliament, and legislator Paritola Ravi. Officials said their injuries were not life-threatening.

Police said nobody had claimed responsibility for the bomb, and there was no immediate reaction from political groups in the Indian capital.

The dead included a five-member crew of television station E-TV, whose car bore the brunt of the blast as it led the convoy. Four vehicles in the convoy were hit by the blast.

State Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, who was in New Delhi, told reporters that investigations were

being carried out, but it was too early to draw any conclusions.

Andhra Pradesh state, of which Hyderabad is the capital, has been rocked by a violent campaign by outlawed Maoist insurgents.

Seven policemen died and six were wounded on Monday in a roadside explosion about 220 kilometers north of Hyderabad in the fourth such attack in the past two years.

The Maoist People's War Group (PWG), which was banned in Andhra Pradesh in 1992, gained a reprieve in June 1995 when local authorities granted a temporary amnesty to its members.

But it was banned again in July last year.

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Heading south

By PATRICK J. SLOVAN

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration is closing the icest chapter of the Cold War by phasing out US Navy attack-submarine patrols under the Arctic ice cap where they hunted Soviet missile-launching submarines for almost 30 years, according to Navy officials.

The move was disclosed by the commander of the US Atlantic Fleet submarine force, Vice Adm. Richard Mies, during a wide-ranging recent interview on the changing role of the US submarine fleet. Mies portrayed the decision as one in a series of difficult choices facing an American submarine fleet downsized by smaller budgets. "One of the things we're not going to do anywhere near as much as we have done in the past are Arctic operations," Mies said. "We historically spent a significant level of effort up in the Arctic

reduced their submarine polar cap deployment to one boomer and sometimes two.

More than 100 Russian subs are rusting at the pier due to lack of funds for crews and maintenance. "There has been a dramatic reduction in the number of Russian missile submarines being deployed," said Air Force Gen. Eugene Habiger, commander-in-chief of the US Strategic Command. Habiger is in charge of sharply reduced land and sea-based nuclear-tipped rockets and closely monitors Russian weapon systems.

Mies would not discuss in detail the cat-and-mouse game between American attack submarines equipped with torpedoes and Russian subs that could launch intercontinental rockets tipped with a number of hydrogen warheads. The game has been the most secretive aspect of the most

By WILLIAM D. MONTALBANO

WINDSOR, England — There is good news for Queen Elizabeth II and Joe Tourist alike: Five years after fire ravaged Windsor Castle, the landmark of British royal history has risen from the ashes, fully restored and welcoming again to resident royals and awestruck visitors.

"The queen thinks it is marvelous and says she was absolutely delighted," said project head Michael Peat at a media viewing Monday of one of the century's most challenging, complex works of restoration.

Elizabeth, who will celebrate her golden wedding anniversary at the castle Thursday, mingled for more than two hours over the weekend at a reception for 1,500 contractors, artisans and firefighters. "This is the best wedding present Prince Philip and I could have had," the queen told her guests, according to the Royal Household's Dickie Arbiter.

Beginning December 27, tourists will get their chance to see restored areas of Europe's largest occupied castle, a 13-acre weekend refuge of battlements, turrets and spectacular royal art collections not far from London's Heathrow Airport.

Medieval vaulted St. George's Hall, the royals' private chapel, the crimson drawing room and the state dining room — where the fire did the most damage — are

among the principal hand-hewn testaments to the skill of craftsmen. Their work was completed six months ahead of schedule, under budget and against all odds.

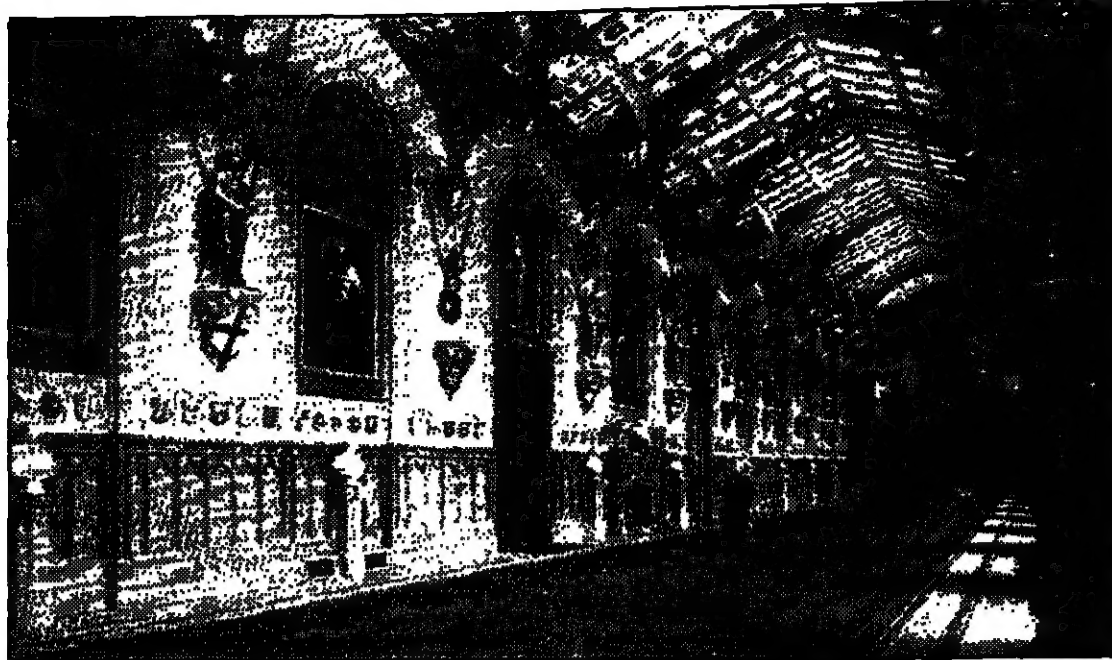
"If we had known at the start that it would become so daunting, we might have given up," said Simon Jones, a project manager. Total cost: about \$60 million, of which 70 percent comes from entrance fees from Windsor and from Buckingham Palace in London. The rest is public money.

Apparently ignited when a spotlight was left too close to a curtain during repair work, fire broke out before noon on November 20, 1992, the queen's 45th wedding anniversary. It quickly overwhelmed the castle's own fire department.

Castle workers, aided by firefighters and troops from a nearby army barracks, got all but a handful of the art treasures out safely as fire consumed the roof. But it would take 250 firefighters from as far away as London more than 15 hours to control the blaze. It destroyed 115 rooms in all, including nine great state halls.

Rescue workers filled 7,000 trash bins with debris that would eventually be winnowed into 2,000 breadbaskets of salvaged pieces.

"I felt that there was going to be a hell of a business trying to put it together again," said Prince Philip in a television documentary about reconstruction of the Windsor family palace; the program was pro-



An apartment warden admires the newly renovated St. George's Hall at Windsor Castle. (AP)

duced by his son, Prince Edward, and is airing here this week.

Before the castle was back together, planners fought a prolonged war against the 1.5 million gallons of water pumped into the old site: that was the equivalent of two seconds of Niagara's flow, they told reporters Monday.

"We fought the water in the walls for two years, meaning we had to work from the top down. It

has been completely dry for less than four months," said project manager Jones, standing on a priceless Persian carpet he first saw as a sodden mess of wool covered with charcoal and debris in a roofless chamber.

At restoration's peak, more than 5,000 workers laboring for about 200 specialist contractors hand-fitted green-oak roof timbers, replastered the ornate gilt ceilings

and rebuilt the leaden windows. There were 75 miles of scaffolding.

"It is the biggest restoration this century," said manager Chris Watson. "We drew the best people in the country... because everybody wanted to do his bit at Windsor. It's the pinnacle of professional life, something for your grandchildren."

(Los Angeles Times)

Acknowledging that the Cold War has indeed ended, Washington phases out Arctic attack submarine patrols

because of concerns about the Russian submarine threat and that [the Arctic] might be a bastion for Russian missile submarines." The patrols produced tensions between the US and Russia, and once prompted Russian President Boris Yeltsin personally to ask President Clinton to reduce US surveillance after a US 688-class attack submarine, the *Baton Rouge*, collided with a Russian Sierra-class attack submarine in the Barents Sea in 1992.

"This is a belated but welcome move by the Navy," said Josh Handler, who, on behalf of Greenpeace, an international environmental organization, has urged a halt in US antisubmarine operations against the Russians. Handler, currently seeking his doctorate at Princeton University, was instrumental in making public US and Russian naval records that revealed a series of undersea collisions over the years.

Since 1966, Soviet subs with nuclear-tipped rockets have used the polar ice cap as a likely launch site for attacking American cities.

In response, the US deployed groups of hunter-killer submarines to trail the Russian missile-carrying submarines, called "boomers."

Some strategic planners often predicted the first five minutes of World War III would be waged beneath the Arctic ice.

Now, US intelligence experts estimate, the Russians have

classified area of naval operations during the Cold War.

Current and former submariners, interviewed on condition of anonymity, recalled dicey moments in the Arctic confrontations.

Under-ice collisions narrowly were avoided as Soviet attack submarines sought to block the American hunters from following the Russian boomers.

Undersea ice formations — some reaching the Arctic ocean floor — made patrols tricky and sometimes dangerous for even the most experienced submarine captain. Particularly difficult was underwater navigation north of the Bering Strait that separates the US from Siberia. "You could get trapped in a forest of ice pillars," said a veteran of the voyage. "Sometimes you had to back the submarine out and start all over again." More than two dozen US 688 Los Angeles-class submarines were built with superstructures the sail or conning tower — containing strengthened steel designed to surface through the ice cap.

Today, though, the effort is cooperative and scientific, Mies said.

Under agreements between the US and Russia, information obtained by both submarine fleets about the Arctic is being pooled for international science.

(Newsday)

Shining Path terrorism returns to haunt Peru

SAN MIGUEL, Peru — Weeping loudly with fear and unable to control his bladder, Gregorio Garcia kneels in the dark and begs for his life, as a teen-age guerrilla who has been ordered to kill him stands over him with a rifle.

Shaking desperately, the father of seven tugs his blindfold down, clasps his hands in prayer and stares at his executioner's silhouette.

"Get lost, scum," the young rebel suddenly hisses, and Garcia scurries out of sight, hides in a guinea pig-pen and cowers there through the night, until long after the Shining Path column pulls out of the town in Peru's Andes.

"No way am I going to stay in this town. Today, tomorrow, who knows when they'll come and kill me," Garcia said a week after the Maoist rebels commandeered his pickup truck and his services as driver during a raid on the provincial capital.

His crime, which led to a death sentence, was to steer the vehicle into a pothole as the rebels were leaving town with stolen supplies. He has no idea why he escaped punishment.

His run-in with Shining Path occurred a few weeks ago when a score of rebels took the town in the highland department of Ayacucho and held it for more than an hour. Despite an army barracks just half an hour away by road, the rebels killed a policeman, ransacked shops, and brought terror back to the 1,500

inhabitants, who had thought such danger was in the past.

The bold attack was one in a series of operations nationwide that have shocked a country slow to accept the signs that one of the world's bloodiest rebel forces is gradually regaining ground in its former strongholds.

It was also compelling evidence that Shining Path, decimated after the 1992 capture of its leader Abimael Guzman, has reincorporated Ayacucho into a triangular power base after years of patient restructuring. The group now coordinates fighting units in Lima, the central highlands and jungle of Ayacucho, and the drug-growing valley of Hualalaga, according to analysts and security forces.

For many of the townspeople in San Miguel, the nightmare of the rebels' lightning strike also had a terrifying but familiar sequel: the army's arrival.

Commander Luis Rojas Merino and his 50 young soldiers marched in a week later, summoned the inhabitants and berated them for their conduct during the attack. The crisp olive-green fatigues of the rigid, mustachioed commander and his charges decorated the drab main square as they presided over a flag-raising ceremony and a goose-stepping parade.

Rojas thumped the podium and barked out a speech accusing the crowd of "hiding under beds" during the attack. "There are going to be drastic sanctions," he warned.

LATIN AMERICA

By SAN LUIS

"There are many people here that participated in this event, there are many collaborators. You are going to tell us who they are." An old woman crossed herself when he reminded them they were living under a "state of emergency," meaning the army has the right to enter homes without warning.

"Just as we are starting to calm down after the terror, we are terrorized by the police and the army," Ronald Palomino said after the speech, a sentiment echoed by many others who declined to be quoted for fear of reprisals.

Despite the idyllic backdrop of cloudless skies and green hills, the scene was a throwback to the violence-torn years of the late '80s and early '90s when Shining Path was at its peak and the army was constantly accused of abuses. In Peru's 17 years of guerrilla wars, the vast majority of the estimated 30,000 dead have been civilians, caught in the crossfire as first the guerrillas and then the army swept through their homes, each hunting for their enemy's supporters.

"History is repeating itself," said Jaime Antezana, an expert on Shining Path who works around Ayacucho in programs to help villagers return to homes they abandoned years ago because of the

war. He was not surprised the rebels had carried out such a confident attack on San Miguel, as he has plotted their gradual rebuilding in the area since late 1995.

Thousands of Shining Path fighters once ruled over vast areas of central Peru, bombing and killing in Lima apparently at will and threatening to bring the state to its knees. But they were cut down to size by Guzman's capture in 1992.

Deprived of the man who launched their Maoist war on the state in 1980, the rebels lost their organizational force, were declared beaten by the government, and bickered among themselves over their imprisoned chief's calls for peace.

But in November 1995 a new hard-line leader, Oscar Ramirez Durand, emerged, slowly tightening his grip on the group and reorganizing the rump of a few hundred armed members around the country, Antezana said. By 1996 the group had restructured sufficiently to be able to carry out a simultaneous mid-year bombing and killing campaign in Lima and the Alta Hualalaga, according to analysts and security forces.

This year, while Peru's smaller rebel group, the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA), grabbed world headlines by holding 72 VIPs at the Japanese ambassador's home, Shining Path steadily built on its Lima-Hualalaga axis.

Secret anti-terrorist police docu-

ments say Shining Path has made a general advance in the last few months with armed operations in Ayacucho and Hualalaga and "convincing armed attacks" in the capital, Lima.

In Ayacucho, where Guzman founded Shining Path and Ramirez now directs operations, the group has "reinitiated its military activity," according to the documents obtained by Reuters. The rebels kill an average of one soldier every two weeks in the area, a source close to the military said.

Shining Path has also kept up its threat in its established bases of Lima and Hualalaga with murders of officials, raids on communities and bombing of buildings.

Even with its gradual resurgence over the last two years, most analysts and diplomats say Shining Path can never return to its violent heyday. Military-backed self-defense groups, determined to avoid being forced off their land again, should limit further progress by the guerrillas, Antezana said.

But that does not mean the problem is going to go away.

"Shining Path is biding its time," UK-based Peru analyst John Crabtree said. "Its scope is not at all as it used to be, but it has a certain resilience and improvisation when operations are launched against it. It's unfinished business."

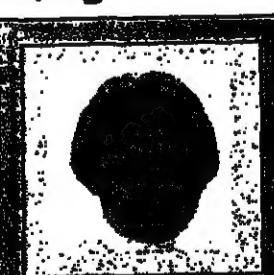
(Reuters)

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AGENDA

Continued from Page 1

Drugs as a parable

According to American law, countries which grow hashish on areas which extend beyond 5,000 hectares or opium in areas exceeding 1,000 hectares will be listed as "countries which encourage drug trafficking."

In an interview with *Agenda*, one senior American government official explained that Syria's removal from the list was a necessary legal move: "Had we not done it, we would have been violating American law."

Indeed, as a result of intense pressure from Washington, Damascus decided — in the early 1990s — on a change of policy. Whereas previously preference had been given to the Syrian-controlled area of the Bekaa in Lebanon for the extensive growth of soft drugs, such as marijuana and cannabis — which provided the peasants' main source of income — subsequently, the drug industry underwent a change in favor of hard drugs, such as cocaine and heroin, produced from raw materials imported from South America and the Far East.

The change began with burning the huge fields which had been used for growing soft drugs, accompanied by a widely televised ad campaign to convince the DEA of the seriousness of the Syrian effort.

However, just as these fields began to burn, a green light was given to the Hizbullah to open distilleries for the production of hard drugs. Among the authorizers and profiteers was Rifat Assad (the Syrian president's brother), former chief of intelligence Ali

Lebanon Gen. Razi C'naan, and the son of Lebanese president, Roy Harawi.

The situation got so out of hand that there is a common joke in Lebanon which says that any self-respecting family in Syrian-controlled territory sends one son to work for the government, another to join the Hizbullah, and a third to work in the drug trade.

According to information passed on to the CIA and FBI, the profits flowing into Syria and Lebanon from the drug trade amount to billions of dollars.

In the import of raw materials from Lebanon, for example, it is possible to locate two central channels. Columbia, Peru and Brazil export cocaine hydro fluoride to Lebanon for the production of cocaine, while from the Far East — via Pakistan, Iran, Turkey and Syria — morphine base is sent to the Bekaa for the production of heroin.

The production of drugs is carried out in dozens of small laboratories spread out in the Bekaa, in the Ba'albek region — in Bryal and north in the area of the Ramal.

From Lebanon, drugs are sent mainly to the US and Europe via the sea and air ports of Beirut, Tripoli, and Sidon, or via Damascus, which serves as a transit point for raw materials imported into Lebanon and for the drugs marketed from there.

The information also includes the fact that, in addition to drug production, the Bekaa region serves as a center for the counterfeiting of Western currency, the high level of which is due to American technology — technology given many years ago to the regime of the shah of Iran.

In the heart of the town of Bryal, the Hizbullah has a large

printing press producing significant quantities of American dollars, German marks, and Swiss and French francs. Substantial sums of counterfeit bills have already been transferred for experimental distribution. So out of hand has this operation gotten that the US Secret Service in charge of currency protection opened an office for continuous surveillance in Cyprus.

Drugs, money, terrorism

In Israel, particularly in the office of the prime minister's adviser on terrorism, a direct connection is made between drugs, counterfeit money and terrorism. The assessment is that Iran is behind the consolidation of efforts to undermine Western power. The infrastructure of professional drug embezzlers is also used for terrorist operational activity.

The US president's decision to remove Syria from the list of countries encouraging drug trafficking caught Israel completely off guard. His announcement on the eve of the congressional recess made it an indisputable fact.

Now the only recourse is to change the law so the criteria includes not only the areas for growing drugs but for production and distribution.

There is no doubt that the basic information regarding Syria's and Lebanon's part in the drug trade and in counterfeiting are known to the American administration, even without Dagan's help.

The destruction of the marijuana and opium fields was carried out as far back as early 1992, while the satellite photographs taken since 1993 are very similar

to those of 1997. There is also no doubt that the timing of Clinton's decision was not coincidental.

Both Israel and its friends in Congress will say — perhaps justifiably — that the American administration has once again fallen into the trap of applying a double standard, which has characterized many of its relations with corrupt leaders and tyrants, merely as a way to further US interests in the world.

But this time it is clear the decision stems also from the frustration caused by the political impasse, which has harmed the core of American interests in the Middle East, particularly the pro-Western coalition which the US worked so hard to form at the beginning of the decade in order to preserve the flow of oil from the Gulf.

Parkinson's, Yes or No

The Americans do not like Arafat. He has still not convinced them of his opposition to the "spontaneous demonstration" in support of Saddam Hussein on the Palestinian street.

Furthermore, his ambassador in Baghdad, who also serves as the minister of Public Works in the Palestinian Autonomy, continues to visit the Iraqi presidential palace and to have a tight relationship with the despot who so despised by the Americans.

Nevertheless, the US undoubtedly is praying that the news of the chairman's imminent demise does not prove to be true in the near future. There is nothing the Americans want now less than a continuation of the impasse.

To this day nobody has proof of Arafat's condition. The news in Israel of his critical condition is based on partial information

regarding two medical examinations he underwent in Germany and in the US over the last year.

Both of these examinations led to leaks that he suffers from serious maladies. For evidence of this, one doesn't need confirmation from doctors. This is something plainly visible. Arafat goes everywhere with his doctors, Omar Daka and Isa Tarzi, in tow. They will not leak his medical records, which have been tailored to meet internal Palestinian public relations needs. The very fact of their constant presence does nothing to dispel Western fears that his condition is bad.

This week I decided to try and glean some information on this question from the hospital in Ramallah. Hospital director Shawkat Harb, a first-class physician trained in the US, would not go into detail, but told me that Arafat never required hospitalization there. He said Arafat is able to walk long distances at a quick pace, as well as work long hours. This is in spite of signs of fatigue and palsy, apparently caused — he claims — from an airplane accident in the Libyan desert, which would have killed anybody else.

This, too, is the impression created by Arafat's close advisers, who spend endless hours in his company. They said that during the morning hours his level of functioning is reasonable: it is only during the evening, after a whole day of stressful activity, that he shows signs of weakness and lack of focus.

And I am not relying on Dr. Ahmed Tibi who, unlike Harb, has accumulated many more hours in Palestinian politics than in his clinic in Jerusalem, which was always filled more with fax machines and telephones than it was with patients.

And yet, what disturbs the Americans is the fact that the PLO leadership is talking more and more about an heir. Any heir — whether it be Abu Mazen, Ahmed Qurie or Faisal Hussein — will be punctuated with a large question mark regarding his ability to reach a compromise with Israel.

A word about shame

Many years ago, the playwright Nissim Aloni explained something to me about writing. He said that any self-respecting writer must remember that he too also goes to the grocery store.

In other words, if he isn't going to face his readers, at least let him have a sense of shame before the supermarket check-out woman, the neighbors, and his mother and father.

This week, MK Benny Begin spoke of shame and politics. He expressed this sentiment much more bluntly than Nissim Aloni.

The Americans no longer harbor expectations where shame and Netanyahu's integrity are concerned. But, more than anything, they hate instability. Thus, even if they no longer believe in the prime minister, they worriedly follow the reports of his decline.

More than anything they fear that new elections would result in Barak becoming a prime minister paralyzed by the Knesset's right wing. If Netanyahu finds a way of extricating himself from this crisis, the Americans will shed no tears. Ultimately they believe that part of the price for his survival will be a serious Israeli compromise which will further the peace process.

Who knows? Maybe it wouldn't be such a bad idea at this point to send Dagan to conduct political talks in Washington.

מכאן התחיל

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Arafat's tremors

The trembling hands, quivering lips and glazed eyes of Yasser Arafat have been attracting world attention, as it is becoming ever clearer that the chairman of the Palestinian Authority is suffering from a debilitating neurological disease. Given the state of relations between Israel and the PA, and the accompanying danger that instability in the top post of the PA could trigger violence, this is indeed a matter of concern.

The truth is that Arafat's true medical condition is a well guarded secret. He himself dismisses speculation regarding his health as an Israeli plot and ascribes his shaking demeanor to "lack of sleep." But health experts viewing his public appearances assert that he is suffering from much more than an occasional night of tossing and turning. The conventional wisdom is that he is either ill with Parkinson's disease or another medical condition related to the blows he received to the head during a plane crash while flying from Sudan to Libya in April 1992.

In either case, the symptoms, which will only get worse with time, could include slowness of speech, lack of motor control, and reduced cognitive abilities, including limitations in memory and concentration. No national leader can continue to discharge his duties under such conditions. In a properly functioning democracy, Arafat would long ago have been required to either provide convincing medical evidence of good health or step down.

But the PA is far from a democracy, which is precisely where the problem lies. World leaders, such as German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and French President Jacques Chirac are reportedly reacting to reports of Arafat's health difficulties by urging that the peace process be speeded up as much as possible, while Arafat is still capable of signing an agreement. This approach is too narrowly focused. The issues regarding the future of the PA are more consequential than any single round of talks, because an agreement concluded with Arafat that is not honored by his successors will not be worth much. How the succession to Arafat is effected is as important as who succeeds him.

One of the clearest indications that Arafat is indeed ailing is the jockeying for position evident among potential successors. Some of it is remarkable, because this is not the equivalent of members of the Likud faction in the Knesset discussing a possible takeover. Arafat has maintained control over the PLO for over 30 years by deviously and skillfully manipulating potential rivals, sometimes in the most brutal manner. Nevertheless, there are clear camps emerging in the so-far subdued succession struggle. They can roughly be divided into those who are pushing

for a "legally legitimate" succession and those who are more likely to take control through the barrel of a gun.

Even if Arafat manages to survive for a long time, the results of the current struggles could have important implications regarding the balance of power in the Palestinian Authority. The more democratic-minded camp is attempting to strengthen the position of the elected council. It is insisting that the Palestinian Basic Law be followed in the event of Arafat's death or incapacitation so that Ahmed Qurei, the speaker of the council, would automatically be acting PA chairman for 60 days until new elections can be held.

Another proposed reform is separating the positions of chairman of the PLO and chairman of the PA. This may seem like an obscure distinction, but it is an important one. The PA is an autonomous entity, at least nominally ruled by laws and bound by international standards and agreements. The PLO is seemingly not bound by any rules. Arafat has often made use of the blurring between the two to get around constraints he is uncomfortable with, be they limits on PA diplomatic contacts or PA commitments of accountability towards donor nations. The fact that the PLO is still around has facilitated a good deal of the corruption that has marked Palestinian self-rule, and separating the PLO and PA would be a step towards cleaner government.

No less interesting is the source of some of these demands: Farouk Kaddoumi, the head of the PLO's political department in Tunis, who has been out of the headlines for years, is one of those pushing for reforms. In fact, some prominent Palestinian politicians recently flew to Tunis to confer with Kaddoumi on these matters. This has led to intriguing speculation that Kaddoumi is serving as the point man in a coalition of Palestinians forming to block a possible military takeover of the PA by strongmen Jibril Rajoub and Mohammed Dahlan. The public campaign to accuse Rajoub a "traitor" may also be related to this struggle. A good deal of activity is apparently taking place which could have far-reaching consequences.

Israel and the West need to keep an eye on these developments. A democratic-leaning PA with a legitimate leadership is more likely to reach and observe agreements with Israel than an unstable one ruled by a military dictator. Although it is a truism that nations have the right to select their own leadership, there are also legitimate tools countries can use to encourage pro-democracy movements in other nations. Those truly concerned by Arafat's tremors and shakes would do well to consider using some of those tools with regard to the PA.



OLEG 97

No more blunders

The persistent buildup of US armed might in the Gulf is no mere window-dressing. Both in the White House and the US defense establishment, voices call for a full-scale strike at critical Iraqi warfare manufacturing and storage sites as a first bid to eliminate Saddam Hussein's regime.

This column heard from a Washington source: "We blundered twice in misreading the signs that nothing less than the destruction of Hussein will rid the entire Middle East of the serious threat of a calamitous war involving chemical weapons and poison gas. We cannot afford to make the same mistake a third time."

The first blunder was made by president Bush, who did not seize Baghdad and replace Saddam Hussein in 1991. It was the mistaken belief that Iraqi army officers would finish the job following the disastrous Gulf War that devastated so much of Iraq's military power. To this end, the US refrained from bombing Saddam's surviving crack Republican guard divisions, convinced that they would lead the revolt against him.

The second mistake was the US misreading of the defection, in August 1995, of Lt. Gen. Hussein Kamel Hassan, the builder of Iraq's military machine. Hassan fled from Baghdad with his brother, Saddam Kamel, his two wives (both daughters of the Iraqi dictator) and their families. Given asylum in Jordan by King Hussein, Kamel was interrogated for months by US officials. Repeatedly, Hassan told the Americans that Saddam was burning with desire to seek revenge against the US and its allies. He gave precise details of surviving war plans and Iraq's military storage sites.

He warned: "Unless you eliminate Saddam, he will try again to seize Kuwait and Saudi Arabia in order to control the major sources of Middle Eastern oil. With your support I'm ready to set up an opposition government to replace Saddam. He's ruining Iraq and bringing much suffering to the entire population." The interrogators focused on the

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

most minute details of Iraq's still-formidable war machine. This column was briefed: "The defector repeatedly switched attention to his main reason for fleeing Iraq. 'I'm ready to take over the reins in

Nothing less than the destruction of Hussein will rid the entire Middle East of the serious threat of a calamitous war

Baghdad and establish a pro-Western government. But I need active US backing.' Somehow, the thrust of his message was lost somewhere along the line," we were told. Realizing the danger to himself by Kamel's defection, Hussein sent his son Uday to Amman on a "reconciliation visit." King Hussein ordered a close watch be kept on the large party. It was discovered that they were out to kill the entire group of defectors.

When Hussein Kamel realized that he was not being taken seriously by the Americans, he began to waver; his wife and sister-in-law pleaded night and day to be allowed to return to their homeland. "His will to resist the pressure was weakened by the arrival of his weeping mother-in-law, Sarjida, who told him that Saddam had promised her that he would forgive him and his brother if they would return to Baghdad."

Hussein Kamel made one last effort to convince the US officials, who were still dealing with him as though he was a minor spy, to decide immediately whether or not to go along with his plans to stop Saddam Hussein permanently.

His efforts were to no avail. He warned that when Saddam felt there was weakness in the Western alliance — that the French and Russians would work behind the

scenes to convince the UN to soften its sanctions policy — he would challenge the US. In the meantime, he warned, Saddam was surreptitiously building up his weapon stocks acquired secretly in Europe, China and North Korea.

Hussein Kamel realized that his plan to topple Saddam Hussein had failed because of a lack of US political will. Given Saddam's personal written guarantees of "no reprisals," the entire entourage returned to Iraq. Saddam prepared a major welcoming banquet in their honor. At the banquet, his bodyguards, led by Uday, massacred all the males of Kamel's Majeed tribe. His two daughters were severely punished.

THE danger facing the Western world is that Saddam Hussein is determined to become the master of Middle Eastern oil. Although weaker than he was when he invaded Kuwait, he is convinced that he can now topple his neighbor and within days seize the oil wells of Saudi Arabia, too. He also believes that the French and Russians, in order to do business with him, will not give the White House their support to unleash US forces against Iraq.

Today there are people in Washington who are unaware that every prediction made by Kamel Hassan has come true. Saddam Hussein is now flexing his muscles, coinciding with the fact that President Clinton is even weaker than was George Bush. There are many bitter recriminations made in the administration that the US cannot afford to be outwitted and outblinded by Saddam Hussein. At the same time, there are cautious voices urging the White House to adopt a policy of "restraint" and "making concessions" to Iraq rather than going it alone.

We cannot know what the president will do. The outcome would dramatically affect not only the Middle East, but also the future and prosperity of the entire Western world.

The writers are Jerusalem Post columnists.

Against unity

LARRY DERFNER

More than anything else, the Israeli people today want unity. And reconciliation. This is our answer to motherhood and apple pie.

Such a longing out there to heal our wounds. Instantly. Let's just everybody join hands, keep our voices down and put it all behind us.

There's a broad consensus in the country for that approach, and naturally I'm suspicious of anything a majority of Israelis endorse. Given the majority's recent track record, I figure anything they want is likely to be bad for us. Like unity and reconciliation.

As a general principle, I could go along with it. Things could be a little calmer around here. But if this call for unity is examined closely, I think most Israelis would have to reject it. Ask yourself the question: Do you really want unity with all Israelis? Even those, for instance, who pray at Baruch Goldstein's grave? What about those who'd like to pray there but are just too lazy or scared to make the trip? What about those who wouldn't go so far as to pray at Goldstein's grave, but who still think he was a good Jew, one of us?

We're talking about a lot of Israelis here. There's no shortage of bloody-minded bigots — racial and/or religious — in this country. And they have a presence, an influence on the national mentality, that goes far beyond their numbers. What sort of reconciliation do you want with them?

WE'RE getting ahead of ourselves with this unity thing. We should have realized over the last few years that there are all sorts of Israelis who stand for principles that cannot be absorbed, cannot be reconciled, because they eat away at whatever's decent in this country.

The call for unity and reconciliation is hollow

In the West, this idea is pretty much taken for granted. Well-intentioned Americans want unity, too, but not with Ku Klux Klansmen, not with Militiamen, and not with their sympathizers. Good Americans have no problem seeing malevolent bigots as their enemies, as being fundamentally foreign to them — even if these enemies are American citizens.

But, being Jews, a small people that has been decimated and which is still threatened by more than a few Gentiles, we take unity much more seriously, more literally — it's supposed to mean *all Jews*. We can't really think of Jews as enemies. Even with the worst among us, we need to be able to talk things over, or better yet, put some things aside, because we all have to stick together.

It doesn't work. It hasn't worked. And because it so obviously hasn't worked, the call for unity and reconciliation is hollow. Before we talk about unity, we should be making it plain that there are many Jews, hundreds of thousands of them, with whom we don't want unity.

Yet the Israeli people, as a whole, don't have the courage to do it. What we want above all is quiet. And the name we've given this quiet we seek is "unity." The Right, religious and secular, is pushing hardest for it, because they don't like being reminded that Goldstein, Yigal Amir and all their fans somehow, coincidentally, side with the Right against the Left.

In addition there's the non-ideological Center, which just can't take all this tension in the air, and wants it to go away now. Between the Right and Center, there's probably a 75% majority in favor of looking the other way while the disease spreads.

Isn't spreading? Look at how the Avishai Rabin conspiracy mania has caught on. How many Israelis are convinced that Shimon Peres, or some leftist cabal, was behind Rabin's murder? Only a handful? Do me a favor. What else do they believe in?

Are they shy about circulating their opinions, influencing others? Shall we unify with them? Incidentally, there's another sentiment nowadays, besides the need for unity, which also commands a very broad consensus: that a political assassination could happen here again. With this on our minds, what is the call for unity and reconciliation — for quiet — but a sign of desperation, of weakness?

The writer is a Jerusalem Post columnist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MOURNING DEMOCRACY

Sir, — As Susan Hattis-Rolef makes clear, many more Israelis should be, in her article of the same name, "mourning a slain leader" (November 11) rather than letting the Avishai Rabin affair get in the way. Nevertheless, if we do not deal with Avishai Rabin, we might end up mourning democracy.

Rabin was permitted to run wild. He ended up handling his handlers. His buddy assassinated the prime minister of Israel. Moreover, since December 1987, Rabin had been beating up Arabs, causing property damage to them and, in addition, was engaged in fistfights with left-wingers.

Not only that but in the fall of 1995, Rabin took (false) credit for the murder of an Arab resident of Halhul. The government met and Yossi Sarid demanded the expulsion of Hebron's Jews while Benjamin Ben-Eliezer

ranted and raved. The GSS officials attending the session did not deny to inform the ministers that in this case, they were in error. They sat by quietly while a real incitement effort was underway, to be reported prominently in the media.

The television stations broadcast Rabin in Kiryat Arba, training teenagers in weapons use. He was shown planning to invade the Orient House, swearing to kill Jews at the graveside of Yair Stern in Tel Aviv. Thanks to Rabin we all saw Rabin in SS uniform even if Netanyahu perhaps didn't. We heard Arafat claiming that Rabin's Eyal group was cooperating with Hamas. Did Rabin ever inform Arafat that Rabin couldn't be doing that?

Was Rabin collecting information or spreading disinformation, maliciously so, against the entire right wing which, inexorably, the media

began terming "the extreme Right" with increasing volume so as to eliminate the possibility of any right winger being moderate?

Was Rabin's political task, in addition to his legitimate intelligence role, the conscious besmirching of an entire ideological camp? Was Benjamin Netanyahu, as Ehud Barak and company claim, leading an "incitement campaign" or was Rabin making sure that any actual incitement by fringe groups would be amplified and laid at Netanyahu's doorstep?

These and other questions must be addressed for the answers may prove just how close certain political forces came to destroying basic elements of democracy which Israel can ill afford to lose.

YISRAEL MEDAD

Shiloh.

FORGOTTEN ANNIVERSARIES

Sir, — I would like to express my surprise and disappointment at the fact that Israel's only English-language newspaper did not make mention at all of Kristallnacht (November 10) or of Armistice Day (November 11) this year.

In a week which has been dedicated to remembrance of a very

recent and tragic event in our history, it would still not have been amiss, in my opinion, to have recalled, if in only a few words, these two anniversaries which are both in danger of being forgotten by the younger generation, both of which commemorate important and tragic events that happened

25 years ago: On November 20, 1972, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that in a military-style operation, the Partition Subcommittee of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Palestine had unanimously agreed that Jerusalem should be placed under the UN Trusteeship Council's jurisdiction. Two new outpost settlements,

Ramat Hanegev and Halutza, were founded in the Negev desert by young Jewish pioneers. Revivim was the base from which 25 heavily loaded trucks left at midnight. Both settlements at once began to build roads, lay out areas for afforestation and prepare the soil for tilling.

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Alexander Zvielli

Beyond the crisis

PINHAS INBARI
ZIV HELLMAN

The Doha conference and the crisis in Iraq might seem at first glance to be completely unconnected. But in fact both of them are related to the after-effects of the Gulf War, which are still being felt in the region. Iraq is obviously still struggling with its pariah status and the sanctions imposed on it, while one of the reasons for Egypt and Syria boycotting the Doha conference is their disgruntlement at not having been rewarded handsomely enough for their support of allied forces in the Gulf seven years ago.

The recurring crises over Iraq focus world attention on immediate, albeit very important, issues in Baghdad. At the same time, it prevents the international community from pragmatically assisting Iraq in solving its real problems and returning it back to the society of "normal" nations.

Israel in particular needs to be capable of looking past the immediate, possible threats Iraq poses, and take a longer view towards the Iraq that may emerge in the future. Obviously, an Iraq that is no longer a source of instability and tension in the region will be a more comfortable Iraq for Israel. But even more is possible: as far-fetched as it may sound today, Iraq can potentially play a positive role in strengthening the economic roots of Israel's integration in the Middle East, and give a push towards realizing the "fruits of peace" in the Fertile Crescent and beyond.

The growing economic ties between Israel and the Arab world is by this point a given. The ties have successfully weathered numerous crises, as can be attested by the thousands of Arab businessmen who attended the Doha conference despite their countries' boycotts. The expansion of economic relations can be expected to continue in the future, and it is unlikely to forever exclude Iraq. As a glance at the map reveals, Iraq is part of a geographic continuum stretching through Jordan and the PA to Israel and the shores of the Mediterranean. The most natural

route for oil being shipped from Iraq to the markets of Europe and North America is through the Mediterranean ports.

Indeed, one of the ironic footnotes of the Gulf War is that the H-2 zone from which Iraq fired most of its Scud missiles on Israel originally stood for "Haifa-2 zone," referring to one of the major pipelines built by the British for the transport of oil to the port of Haifa. Under normal circumstances, that pipeline would long ago have been reactivated. The fact that this was not an option was one of the factors which increased Iraqi interest in dominating the Persian Gulf, its only opening to the sea, with disastrous consequences.

The reopening of the oil trade route from Iraq through Jordan to Israel — and possibly also the port in Gaza — can have tangible benefits for all involved. An Iraqi opening to the sea that does not go through the Persian Gulf can contribute to reducing tensions in that part of the world. Jordan and the Palestinians as middlemen can gain much needed revenues. Indeed, it could be the only way a port in Gaza would be profitable. And an Iraq which has an economic interest in Israel will not threaten it with non-conventional weapons.

ALL this will admittedly have to wait for a number of developments to occur in the political standing of Iraq in the world and the Middle East. But there is also an additional factor to consider — key Middle East nations such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Syria are likely to oppose any move towards making it a reality, regardless of the regime in Baghdad. Egypt and Syria are already wary of the relatively close ties between Israel and Jordan. If Iraq were to become part of the picture, it could raise further alarms, reminiscent to some that during the Gulf War, Jordan and the Palestinians were on the side of Iraq against Egypt and Syria. Egypt and

Syria's frustrations ultimately derive from the fact that despite their full support of the anti-Iraq coalition during the Gulf War, they were not repaid with the regional roles they expected in return. Instead, they have been watching Jordan, which was on the wrong side in that conflict, stealing center stage in Western attention, and in economic development plans at regional conference after conference.

Egypt's lack of self-confidence in these matters, however, is puzzling. No Middle Eastern nation can seriously challenge it as the leading Arab nation. It raised its stature in the Middle East by taking a leading role in mediating the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Egypt has been making a policy mistake in adopting a negative stance with regard to increasing Israel's economic involvement in the region. If Cairo, which feels blocked on its African flanks by Libya and Sudan, really wants to look east to the Fertile Crescent area for its future, it should be actively looking for opportunities to support economic ties between Israel and its neighbors and try to integrate itself into that trend. Doing so would enable Egypt to claim a leading economic role in the region, converting what it now perceives as a threat — emerging Israeli economic ties with the Arab world — into an opportunity for its own enhancement.

Sooner or later the question of lifting the sanctions on Iraq will again be high on the international agenda. That will first and foremost require Iraq to renounce the use and production of weapons of mass destruction. An Iraqi willingness to join in economic ties with Israel — perhaps with Egyptian mediation — would also be a sign that it is ready to play a constructive rather than destructive role in the region.

The writers are, respectively, director of research and senior researcher at the Institute for Peace Implementation, a Jerusalem-based think-tank studying permanent status issues.

مكتبة الناصر

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Against
unity
LARRY DERFNER
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Weekender

By DIANE HATHMAN

Logically, you know it has to be — but somehow, you just don't think of Sean Penn as having parents. You imagine him suddenly materializing in Los Angeles in the mid-'80s, full-grown and dangerous, just in time to punch a photographer for trying to take a picture of Madonna.

But here it is, the touching family portrait actress Eileen Ryan, 69, Sean's mother, actor-director Leo Penn, 76, Sean's father, and Sean, 31, all gathered at the nearby City offices of Sean Penn's production company, Clyde Is Hungry, to talk about a new family project: *Remembrance*, a drama by Irish playwright Graham Reid, starring Eileen and Leo, produced by Sean and Clyde Is Hungry in association with Helicon Theatre Company, which is playing at the CityStage Theatre in West Los Angeles.

Of course, this is not exactly a scene from *The Waltons*, with an edgy Sean Penn chain-smoking and bouncing in and out of his chair, railing about the sorry state of theater in Los Angeles, while his crackling parents talk about their roller-coaster lives as actors.

Their years in the business include Leo Penn's decade on the Hollywood blacklist in the 1940s and '50s, the result of attending meetings of actors sympathetic to Hollywood trade union members and occasionally speaking out at meetings in support of the Hollywood Ten.

Also somewhat outside the norm was the Malibu neighborhood where Sean and his brothers — musician Michael, 39, and actor Chris, 31 — grew up shooting their own movies with buddies such as Rob Lowe, Emilio Estevez and Charlie Sheen.

But the dedication to theater — as exemplified by this play, the story of a 19-year-old British Protestant soldier and a 63-year-old Catholic widow who fall in love in a Belfast cemetery where each has buried a son — is definitely a family affair.

The elder Penns say they've received nothing but support from Sean, who in turn calls his parents "great actors" as well as a "great inspiration" to him and his brothers. "Here is the beginning of something. We're thinking of starting a theater," Sean offers.

Sean Penn is fresh from a best actor nod at Cannes for his role in John Cassavetes' film *Swing*. He also stars with Michael Douglas in *The Game*, which opens in Israeli cinemas tomorrow, and his most recent film, Oliver Stone's *U-Turn*, opened in the US last month.

The play's director, Veronica Brezinsky, brought *Remembrance* to Penn and Leo Penn, who in turn brought it to Sean, who agreed to produce it. They discovered the rights to the play were already owned by a trio of actresses — Melissa Fitzgerald, Robin Lange and Laura Jane Salvato. They decided to collaborate, and the three are now in the cast, which also includes James Gandolfini.

Penn describes his role of producer as minimal. "I'm the mayonnaise in the sandwich," he says. But through his efforts, Sinead O'Connor signed on to compose original music for the play with Joseph Vitarelli, who composed the music for *Swing*. O'Connor performs the recorded music, written in an ancient Irish *cappella* style.

"It's like getting married again, renewing your vows," says the white-haired, elfin Leo Penn of falling in love with his real-life wife for the first time onstage. "It's misleading to say it's a geriatric *Romeo and Juliet* — but it is." Despite Penn's surly reputation, his parents describe him as a "good son" with a strong social conscience, misrepresented by



Hell-raiser as family man

Sean Penn involves his showbiz parents in a Los Angeles drama

Sean Penn (seen here in 'The Game') is described by his parents as a 'good son' with a strong social conscience.

his sometimes violent reaction to the media. "He was married to Madonna, for Christ's sake," Ryan exclaims. "They would just jump out from behind something; he didn't know whether they had a gun in their hand or what — that started the whole thing. ... I think it hurt Sean a great deal, that time. And Sean is very shy. Of the three boys, Mike and Chris were extroverted, but Sean was shy." Adds Leo Penn: "In school, they used to call him Gary Cooper, because all he said was 'yup' and 'nope.'"

Ryan Penn describes her son as a true actor, uncomfortable with the attendant role of movie star.

Ryan and Leo Penn note that they never pushed their children into show business. "I would never have driven my kids to anything," Ryan Penn says. "You drove them to Little League," quips Leo Penn. "I just wanted them to be fulfilled in whatever they decided to do," Ryan says.

The couple — who met when cast in leading roles in a late-1950s Broadway production of *The*

Iceman Cometh, when Leo Penn took over the role vacated by Jason Robards — shared a philosophy of fostering independence in their children. And they have clearly maintained creative lives independently of their famous offspring.

Ryan Penn, a native New Yorker, made the choice to give up a flourishing Broadway career to raise her sons, not re-entering the field until cast member Sean helped her land a role in the 1986 film *At Close Range*. But she has always devoted time to creative endeavors, including writing, sculpting and painting.

And Ryan Penn recently sold a screenplay to HBO that she had tucked away in a drawer for years: *Bloodlines*, an autobiographical drama about three generations of women — including a character based on her own mother, an alcoholic. "It was very therapeutic to write this script — very painful and therapeutic," she says.

Leo Penn launched his acting career at UCLA, where he studied drama and expected to teach some day. Instead, after performing in a play on campus, Hollywood came

calling. By 1945 he was signed to a studio contract with Paramount, but it was not renewed due to the blacklist.

"But I was told the reason I was under contract in the first place was that Alan Ladd, who was a short actor, refused to do a movie, and they put him on suspension. They signed me, another short actor, as a threat," he says, grinning.

Leo Penn survived the blacklist mostly by doing television work: his movie career finally recovered when he was offered a role with Rita Hayworth and Gig Young in *Story on Page One*, directed by Clifford Odets. Ironically, through a chance meeting with Odets's sister in a restaurant, Penn had just learned that it was Odets who turned over his name to the congressional committees responsible for authoring the blacklist. Guilt may have prompted Odets's call. "And there went all my integrity!" Penn jokes. "That feature bought us our first house."

Re-entering Hollywood, however, made Penn realize he was tired of acting. "I looked young for my age, and I was tired of being cast

as baby-faced killers," he says. "I had directed one play, off Broadway, and thought I might like to direct." Through a friend, he was able to wangle his way onto the set of a then-new TV series called *Ben Casey* to learn the ropes as a director — and soon worked his way up from a jack-of-all-trades, rewriting scenes or whatever was needed, to directing episodes of the show. "I've been a happy gypsy ever since," Penn says.

He continues to direct television series but says TV is not as much fun as it used to be. "Whether that has to do with faulty memory, or age, I don't know — but you didn't have the network involved so much; you had individual sponsors, who did little in the way of interfering," he says.

While it's been decades since they've been on stage together, the husband and wife say they are up to the challenge. "As a matter of fact, it's easier, because we can take advantage of certain elements of our lives. Two actors arriving as strangers don't have that," Leo Penn observes. (L.A. Times)

Midweek free-for-all

By TRACY FRISK

The Tzof has made a spectacle of itself last week by debuting a Sunday evening theater night featuring the Israeli Straight acting company. For those of us not in the know, it was to be a typical midweek night out: a few drinks with friends and a sparse crowd, accompanied by mellow music. But at 10:30 p.m., the house was full. The music stopped suddenly, and two men dressed up as, I don't know, idiots I guess, began running around the pub, making a racket, yelling unintelligibly at the crowd and each other, they ushered in an evening of original comic acts performed by a local troupe of student actors.

The skits ranged from downright silly (a patient in a wheel chair and her doctor singing an opera in a male-up language) to poignant and clever (a young wife visiting her husband in prison), but definitely worth the price of admission, free.

With a weekly theater night, in addition to a series of live musicals and jazz nights, Tzof, like other area bars, is offering live entertainment in an effort to garner midweek business. And the recent attempts for such evenings point to one simple truth: Jerusalemites will seize any chance to get out of the house early in the week.

When it's not busy being a showcase for local talent, Tzof is a sandwich bar, says co-owner Lavi Ben-Zion. And not just any old sandwich stand, you know. You have a selection of a variety of meats and cheeses, but what's special is our sauces and toppings. You can have pesto, sun-dried tomatoes, zucchini. We don't have things like hummus and falafel, he says, driving the point home. The sandwiches are presented on wooden cutting boards, sized specially to serve not-long-togethers. A steak knife on the side makes drying up dinner easy. Prices range from NIS 20 to NIS 30. For those craving dessert, pies and cakes are also available.

Situated above the same picturesque valley as the Carmel Market and just beneath Alexander's coffee bar on Derech Hebron, Tzof is among the city's most beautiful bars. With walls of big blocks of stone and windows looking out on the softly illuminated Old City, you can almost forget what a noisy, unromantic place Jerusalem is. Unless, of course, it's a Thursday or Friday evening, just past midnight, when Tzof metamorphoses from an intimate, candlelit hangout to the throbbing, beating heart of the city's weekend scene.

I mean, sure, how, or why, it happened, but the tradition, and popular, and in the area, those that blast house music and dance music late at night on the weekends, which would be fine, if there were room to dance. But there's no dance floor, only crowded tables occupied by the city's creative young people — who apparently don't have much to say to each other, since the music's deafening, the lights render conversation futile. I guess my problem is that I simply don't know what to do with myself in these situations. Suppose there's always looking cool — and of course, drinking.

Which brings me to the handsome, well-dressed bar, Casper, Tzof's next neighbor. The drink here, ranging from NIS 12 to NIS 18. Alcoholic drinks start at NIS 15, and glasses of wine at NIS 13. For very special occasions, some of the very best customers, there are premium brands like Grey Goose and Blue Label. And for the ultra-lap and champagne, you can get a whole lot from Tzof's lounge, where the atmosphere is always looking cool.

Whether you're a lover of the arts, a connoisseur of good food, a socializer, or a drinker, Tzof has a little something for every one. Just make sure to show up on the right nights, at the right hours.

Tzof, 15 Derech Hebron, Jerusalem

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CDs on my mind

AACI song contest winner Drue Hoile talks about his favorite discs

New immigrant Drue Hoile, 31, co-winner of last week's AACI English Song competition in Beersheba, never goes anywhere without his steel-string Yamaha guitar. He's had it for 16 years, traveling the east coast of his native Australia, to New Zealand, and to London. Then it came with him when he followed his heart to Israel. The composer of two well-received musicals as well as solo albums "down under," this was his first local musical foray. After having learned about the competition through *The Jerusalem Post*, he wrote the music for his winning entry "Too Many Nights" with Israeli lyricist Baruch Friedland.

In addition to his favorite discs, Hoile could not resist including a special book which he brought with him from his native Sydney to Tel Aviv, where he lives with his wife, Yael.



- 1. Ella Fitzgerald Sings the Duke Ellington Songbook**
"The combination of her voice and his arrangements is fantastic. Fitzgerald was a wonderful singer. She makes it sound so easy and fun, even when she's singing sad songs. She makes you want to sing. Ellington's arrangements are on a par with well-arranged classics. It's an inspiring collection that never fails to surprise me every time I listen to it."
- 2. The Oscar Peterson Trio in Concert**
"This is a remake of a 1964 concert, and it's one of the best jazz recordings ever. I discovered Oscar Peterson about six years ago, and I've been a fan ever since. The playing on this CD is very lively, with lots of atmosphere. It's an inspiring recording to work with [in the sound studio because the CD's balance is so good]. It's a reminder to me of the 'kiss' theory — keep it simple, stupid!"
- 3. Songs for Liquid Days** by Phillip Glass, set to words by such artists as Linda Ronstadt, Paul Simon, and David Byrne.
"I first heard this at an experimental theater in Sydney in 1985. It was my first theater music commis-

4. Leonardo's Bride
"This is a new and incredibly exciting album from an Australian band called Leonardo's Bride, a pop-rock group in the Beatles tradition. They're pals of mine and I've helped them from time to time, so they sent me the album and it's flooded me. You know, you're all in there together, helping each other, making mistakes, developing all the time [and the albums reflect that] and here comes this one with great lyrics and great melodies, truly listenable. Pop albums usually fade rather quickly, but I think this one will be around for a while."

5. The Collected Works of Tennyson
"This book is an 1895 edition I inherited from my Great-Aunt Winnie. She came from England as a young girl, but I only knew her a few years before she died. The book is so beautiful to hold. It has a burgundy leather binding with gold-leafed silk-cut pages. I like a lot of the poetry in it. It's a slow, delicate read. My favorite is the King Arthur story, *Idylls of the King*."

— Helen Kaye

Hot tip

By KAREN SULKIS

Thanksgiving

For American expats who want that authentic holiday feeling, why not tape this Sunday night's live NFL broadcast on METV (24) and replay the tape next Thursday (or Friday) when your guests arrive? The match-up between the Dallas

Cowboys and reigning Super Bowl champs the Green Bay Packers starts at 8 p.m. local time. The soothing, dulcet tones of the American sportscasters (audible whenever the Hebrew voice-over guys shut up) and the inevitable cries to "turn that darn TV off!" will add an extra measure of homesickness to the whole affair.

Tel Aviv Area

Drummer Kenwood Dennard and saxophonist Gilad Atzmon are part of a jazz-fusion show tonight at 11 at Camelot, 16 Sholom Aleichem. Call 528-5222. Eran Tzur headlines a rock-bill tonight at the Tel Aviv Museum. Also on the program are Corinne Allal and the always delightful

Dana International. The show starts at 9:30. Call 527-9797. The lingering effects of a car crash make for the plot of *Sit Down, Mother*. Tonight at 9 at ZOA House.

Jerusalem

Take heart wine snobs! *Le Beaujolais Nouveau* est arrive! In other words, yayin adam hadash higyul! And to celebrate the worldwide release of this year's first French wine, the tapas bar at Jerusalem's Lev Smadar Cinema is hosting a wine-tasting party. Nap first. The uncorking is set for 11:30 p.m. Call (052) 601-628. If you love wine and can't make it to Jerusalem, but can make it to your computer, you're in luck, too.

Roger Voss, a leading European wine expert, is hosting an on-line Beaujolais Nouveau cyber-forum from London. The interactive chat session begins tonight at 7, local time, and you can join in the fun by visiting *Wine Enthusiast* magazine's home page (<http://www.winemag.com>). Joining Voss will be Joseph Berkman, one of the originators of the concept of racing the first wines of the harvest out of France and into glasses all over the world. A local performance of Bertolt Brecht's *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui* takes the stage tonight at 9 at the Jerusalem Theater. Call 561-0011. Hovav and Yehuda play blues and light music. The atmosphere gets funky beginning today at 5:30 p.m. at the Coffee Mill in Talpit.

Killer Joe is a psychological thriller that delves into the "American Dream." Tonight at 8:30 in the Khan Theater. *Who Is Afraid of Clowns?* is an ironic question, considering the show is performed by six mimes. Tonight at 9:30 at the Pargod Theater.

Haifa

The Salzburg Opera Theater joins the Prague Opera Theater in Strauss's *Der Zigeunerbaron*. Tonight at 8:30 in the Haifa Theater North. Edna Mazia's *Games in the Backyard* looks at the victims, perpetrators and prosecutors involved in a kibbutz rape case. Curtain goes up today at 6 p.m. at the Haifa Theater.

Weekender Food & Drink



Phyllis's Tips

By PHYLLIS GLAZER

Savvy salmon (Very Good-Excellent)

With excellent products and a well-stocked new factory store in Ramat Hasharon, Salmon Yakobovitz has gained my approval. The store (17 Haharoshet Street) offers a variety of ready-to-cook salmon dishes, salmon and other fish products, fresh pastas and sauces, salads, cheeses and sweets. It also offers catering advice, including free recipes and tips for putting together your party menu.

We tasted the ready-to-bake salmon on a bed of ginger, vegetables and soy sauce and found it tasted superb with just 1/4 of the (separately) packed sauce included. Available in per-portion containers at NIS 74 a kg.

The other tasty salmon products include: skinless salmon fillets, NIS 66 kg.; smoked sliced salmon, NIS 125 kg.; salmon salad, 49.90 kg. You also can purchase a kit to produce your own salmon mousse for NIS 29.50. For orders or information: (03)-547-3383.

SALMON IN GINGER (From Salmon Yakobovitz, Ramat Hasharon)

5 frozen salmon steaks, thawed
base:
2-3 carrots, cut into match sticks
6 celery stalks, chopped finely
2 Tbsp. chopped fresh ginger
6-8 garlic cloves, crushed
sauce:
1/2 cup olive oil
1 cup soy sauce
1/4 cup white wine
1 tsp. lemon juice
coarsely ground black pepper

Mix all the ingredients for the base and place in a baking pan. Wash the salmon steaks, pat dry with a paper towel and place on the vegetables.

Mix the ingredients for the sauce and pour on top. Cover with aluminum foil and bake in a preheat-

ed 200° oven for 20 minutes.

Spice of life (Very Good)

In recent years, the Segal Winery has expanded its product line to include a variety of high-quality gourmet foods, produced especially for the company by Olivia. Now the company also will market 85 spices and spice mixtures (Hatavimim shel Ilana) produced for them by Ilana Levi, a six-year veteran in the spice industry.

The spice mixtures include a Mediterranean mixture - which contains garlic, onion, celery, zaatar, sumac, tarragon, hyssop, paprika and spinach - and a *s'hug*, that classic Yemenite blend of coriander, garlic, hot pepper and salt. The Mediterranean mixture can be used as a salt substitute. Levy prides herself on the fact that her spices don't contain fillers. The spices are worth trying at NIS 7.50 for a bag and NIS 8 for a 30 gr. carton.

In a jam (Excellent)

There was a time in Israel, many years ago, when the jams produced by 778 were so delicious they were worth bringing to friends abroad as gifts. Today's 778 jams are not bad, except for the ones with fillers. The Austrian D'arbo jams, which I tasted recently, reminded me of the good old days of 778.

Rudolf D'arbo first produced D'arbo jams in 1879 in Tyrol in a unique manner that gives his jams a homemade texture and flavor. Seven flavors now are available here in supermarkets and specialty stores, and additional flavors are on the way. Those I tasted had an excellent full-bodied taste.

Since D'arbo's products consist of more than 45 percent fruit, they are not actually jams, but confitures. 450 gr. jars sell for NIS 16 and 225 gr. jars for NIS 11.

Bagel Bagel producing fish fish (Not Good)

The Bagel Bagel Company should stick to pretzels, which it

does a pretty good job of making. The company's new product, baked salty snacks called Dag Dag (literally "fish fish"), achieved less than rave reviews from my children. These pretzel substitutes are cute, but their taste needs an adjustment. NIS 4.80 for a 200 gr. bag.

Selected chocolates (Very Good)

Elite's Cow chocolates now are produced in a selected, or upgraded, version. They are made with five different types of cocoa beans imported from the Ivory Coast, Venezuela and Java and come in three flavors: milk chocolate; milk chocolate with nuts; and bittersweet chocolate. The bittersweet has 72 percent cocoa solids, more than any other bittersweet chocolate made in Israel. And the chocolate with nuts has extra nuts - 25% instead of the 16% that is typical for chocolate bars.

Although some chocolate aficionados claim bittersweet is the real chocolate, I loved the milk chocolate. Prices: 100 gr. bittersweet, NIS 5.95; 100 gr. milk chocolate, NIS 5.95; and 150 gr. chocolate with nuts, NIS 7.95.

Sambucol-c (Very Good-Excellent)

It's not a food (the label calls it a "dietary supplement"), but it is definitely worth keeping Sambucol-c in the kitchen among your vitamins. They are relatively tasty, though I wasn't crazy about the elderberry-mint combination. However, Sambucol-c tablets are helpful when you feel the signs of a viral cold or flu coming on. After chewing four a day as prescribed, I've found colds pass far more quickly than expected.

Produced by Razei Bar Industries, the little box contains 16 lozenges, a 4-day supply. Whether or not you believe in alternative medicine, Sambucol-c is worth a try. It is all natural, but does contain sorbitol, which some people may be sensitive to.

cornstarch, *kornflour*, cellophane wrap, *redid nylon*, parchment, *nir pergament*, and wax paper, *nir sheva*.

Cellophane wrap - also known as nylon wrap - is good for wrapping sandwiches and foods before putting them in the refrigerator. However, it is not an ecologically sound product since it is not biodegradable. Wax paper, meaning wax-coated paper, is suitable for wrapping foods and is more ecologically sound than cellophane wrap. Parchment paper is a wonderful baking tool; line a baking sheet or broiler pan with it instead of oiling the pan to prevent food from sticking. The paper should not be placed too close to the broiler element, however, or it will catch fire.

Fresh coriander (*azbura yeruka* in Hebrew) should be kept with the other fresh herbs in the supermarket. Dried, powdered and whole coriander should be with other dried spices.

Although it once was common to list ingredients in recipes by weight, as is done often in British recipes, today generally only hotel

chefs give recipes listing items like sugar and flour by weight. It now is common and acceptable to use cups, teaspoons and tablespoons. A cottage cheese container makes an exact one cup measure and a regular teaspoon is the standard teaspoon used in recipes.

Your recipe for "Noodles, Swiss Chard and Cashews" (Phyllis' Notebook, September 18) looks very nice, but does not indicate the amount of cashews to use and what to do with them. - Audrey Scher, Jerusalem

Whoops! Use 1/2-1 cup toasted cashews. Throw them in right at the end, to heat, but not cook, them.

Phyllis Glazer can be contacted c/o The Jerusalem Post Magazine, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem, 91000, or by E-mail: Phyllisfood@jpost.co.il. Do not send stamped, self-addressed envelopes, as inquiries cannot be answered individually. Feedback also appears on Friday in The Jerusalem Post Magazine.

Hungarian rhapsodies

That music you hear on the stove is the gentle simmering of Hungarian goulash, BARBARA JAKACKI writes

If ever there was a dish that welcomed you in from the cold, it is Hungarian goulash. These stews are indeed gifts to be treasured because the recipes call for basic cuts of meat and household staples, such as onions, potatoes, carrots and noodles. And they all share a common, colorful component: paprika.

As your life's hectic pace steps up, these dishes remain laid-back. Most of them only call for two basic cooking steps: Sauté the vegetables and meat, then cover and simmer until they're tender.

Loaded as they are with meat, traditional goulashes can be pretty high in fat. But don't you stew about that. By using lean cuts of meat and minimal fats, we've drastically cut the calories and given these goulashes a fresher flavor. So don't let guests and family members go hungry. Let them go Hungarian.

TRANSYLVANIAN GOULASH

3 chicken breast halves, skinned
3 chicken drumsticks, skinned
3 chicken thighs, skinned
4 slices smoked goose breast
1 cup diced onion
1 garlic clove, minced
1 cup diced green bell pepper
2 450 gr. cans diced Italian-style tomatoes, undrained

1/2 cup dry red wine
1 1/2 tsp. paprika
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. dried tarragon
1/4 tsp. pepper

Place chicken in a Dutch oven and add water to cover. Bring to a boil; cover, reduce heat and simmer 45 minutes or until tender. Drain chicken in a colander over a bowl; reserve 1 cup chicken broth. Remove chicken from bones, and shred meat with 2 forks. Cover and chill.

Cook goose breast in pan over medium-high heat until crisp; crumble and set aside. Add onion and garlic to goose breast drippings in pan and sauté 7 minutes or until lightly browned. Add the bell pepper and tomatoes, and cook over medium heat 30 minutes, stirring frequently. Stir in reserved chicken broth, wine and remaining ingredients and bring to a boil.

Partially cover and simmer, reduce heat and simmer 30 minutes. Add the shredded chicken; cook 15 minutes or until thoroughly heated. Ladle goulash into soup bowls and garnish with crumbled goose breast. (Serves 8.)

VEAL PAPRIKASH

You can make this dish ahead. Simmered veal can be substituted for the veal roast.

1 Tbsp. margarine, divided
cooking spray
1 kg. lean veal tip round roast, cut into 2.5 cm. pieces
1/4 cup sliced carrot
1 cup sliced onion
1 garlic clove, minced
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
1 Tbsp. paprika
1/4 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. pepper
1 cup low-salt chicken broth
1 cup fat-free beef broth
1/4 cup dry white wine
2 bay leaves
1/2 cup low-fat sour cream
3/4 cups hot, cooked medium egg noodles
chopped parsley (optional)

Melt 1 Tbsp. margarine in a Dutch oven coated with cooking spray over medium-high heat. Add veal; cook 5 minutes, browning on all sides. Remove meat from pan; set aside.

Melt 2 Tbsp. margarine in pan over medium heat. Add carrot, onion and garlic; sauté 10 minutes or until tender. Stir in flour, paprika, salt and pepper. Add broth, wine and bay leaves; stir well.

Return meat to pan and bring to a boil. Cover, reduce heat and simmer for 1 1/2 hours or until tender, stirring occasionally. Discard bay leaves. Remove from heat and stir in sour cream. Cook over

low heat 5 minutes or until thoroughly heated. Serve over noodles; garnish with parsley, if desired. (Serves 7.)

KETZLE GOULASH

1 Tbsp. vegetable oil
1 kg. lean boned bottom round roast, cut into 2.5 cm. cubes
2 cups diced plum tomato
1/4 cup vertically sliced red onion
1 cup diced green bell pepper
1 garlic clove, minced
2 cups sliced peeled red potato
1/4 cup dry red wine
1/4 cup water
1 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
1/2 tsp. paprika
1 tsp. dried marjoram
1/4 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. pepper
250 gr. can fat-free beef broth

Heat oil in a Dutch oven over medium-high heat. Add beef, browning on all sides. Remove from pan; add tomato, onion, bell pepper and garlic; sauté 10 minutes.

Return meat to pan; stir in potato and remaining ingredients. Bring to a boil; cover, reduce heat and simmer for 1 1/2 hours or until beef is tender. (Serves 6.)

(Sponsors Syndicate, Inc.)



Transylvanian goulash

(Cooking Light)



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

I am 86 years old and am a good cook and pastry maker. I would like to know what the following ingredients are called in Hebrew: chives; confectioners' sugar; shallots; allspice; and cornstarch. You have mentioned cellophane, parchment and wax papers. What is the difference between them and what are they called in Hebrew? Where can I get coriander? Could you give the ingredients for your recipes not in cups but in dekagrams, the measure the Israeli public uses. - Aniko Wittman, Haifa

Here are the Hebrew terms you requested: chives, *trif*; confectioners' sugar, *avkat sukar*; shallots, *shallot*; allspice, *pipel angil*;

Room to breathe in Achziv

Day Tripper

By Haim Shapiro

Weekender Travel

In the summer, Achziv is just another pretty place. It is around this time of year that it starts having some character.

True, the inlet that forms one of the most beautiful beaches in Israel is too cold for all but the most intrepid swimmers, but to get to the sea you don't have to make your way through the bodies lined up like a tin of sardines. Instead, you can have the place almost all to yourself, with only the occasional wedding couple being led by their photographer, like a pair of trained poodles on a leash.

For those who are not familiar with it, Achziv occupies a promontory overlooking the sea, just off the Nahariya-Rosh Hanikra road. It is a site occupied from ancient times, and in

the second century CE, Jews lived there and produced the special blue dye used for *tsitsit*, the fringes of the garments.

The most impressive landmark today is the remains of a Crusader castle. The massive stone roof is supported by four square stone pillars, with arches at the top. Nearby is a mosque, which was used by the residents of the Arab village before they fled to Lebanon in 1948.

These structures form the focus of a national park, which occupies the peak of the hill. Here there are shade trees, palms, manicured lawns and picnic tables. On Shabbat, in the summer, the park is jammed with visitors. These days, you're virtually on your own.

To the south is the Club Med resort, situated on a long stretch

of beach. During the past few years the resort has been closed much of the time, even during the high season, because of katyusha attacks from Lebanon. There are rumors that the giant French-owned resort chain wants to pull out of the Achziv location, although Hamutal Ansky, spokesperson of Club Med in Israel, says the head office has given no indication that it intends to do so.

Perhaps the most picturesque part of Achziv is to the north of the national park where Eli Avivi, a rugged individualist, has established what he calls his own private state, "Achzivland." For the casual visitor, the most remarkable part of Achzivland is the museum, a collection of antiquities and flotsam and jetsam, along with

the occasional work of art executed by one of Avivi's many visitors. Some of the items on display were no doubt considered old junk when Avivi collected them 30 or 40 years ago. Today, they are fast becoming collectors' items.

There is also a hostel with a tower, from which you can get a magnificent view of the sea and the coastline. Although many of Avivi's guests are youngsters in search of adventure, he also has a coterie of friends, admirers and guests who are a significant part of the Israeli establishment.

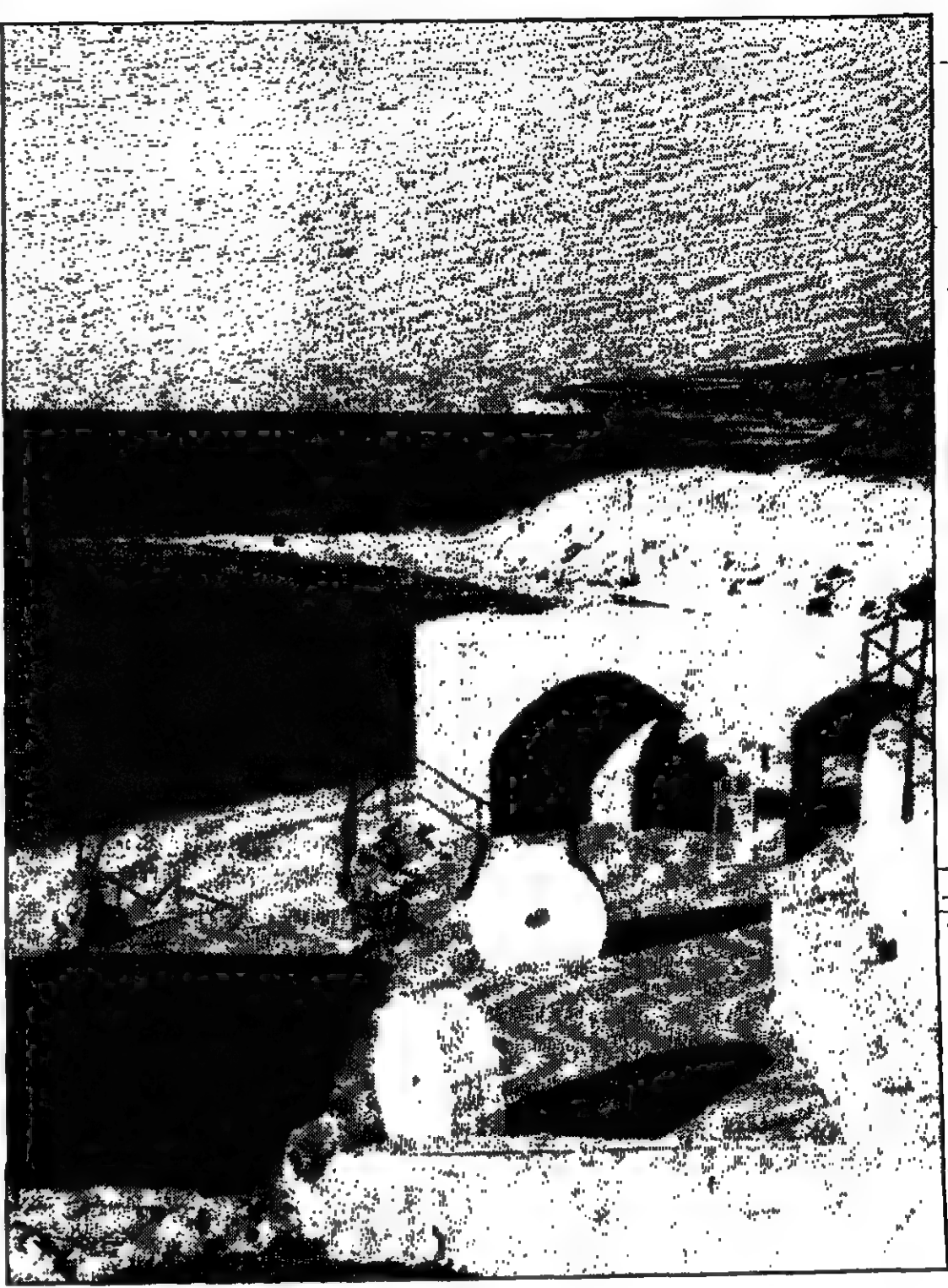
Officially, both Club Med and Achzivland are part of the national park. Avivi, who appears old and tired, says he would like to give his section back to the National Parks Authority, on condition that it maintain his museum. But what he really wants to see is a national park that would incorporate all three sites, extending along all of this part of the coastline. It is, he says, too beautiful to be kept in private hands.

The national park is open, this time of year, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry is NIS 10, and NIS 5 the rest of the year. Achzivland is open sporadically, when Avivi is around. Although most of his hostel rooms are available only in the summer, he has a few that are suitable for the winter months. For information, call (050) 798-034.



(Left) The remains of a crusader castle form the focus of a national park and are Achziv's most impressive landmark today.

(right) this inlet is part of a long stretch of coast considered to be among Israel's most beautiful beaches.



On a Limb

A baby bungee on the Jordan

Bungee jumping may be nice, but it's not for everyone. Now there is an Israeli invention for those who aren't quite ready for the big leap.

Bungee jumping consists of flinging yourself off a bridge or platform, sometimes more than 40 meters in the air, with something resembling a giant rubber band attached to your feet. During the past year, the sport got something of a bad name in Israel after an Israeli journalist fell the wrong

way and badly injured one side of her face.

Abu-Kayak, an attraction on the Jordan River, has come up with a less daring alternative - an invention called the bungee swing.

The swing consists of a frame, 12 meters high, with a pulley arrangement and two sets of rubber band-like attachments. First you are strapped into the kind of harness used by mountain climbers. Then you are attached to

elastic ropes on each side. The heavier you are, the more elastic ropes you get to support you. Finally you are hoisted up and you can swing to your heart's content.

For the beginner, the best you can do is swing back and forth, with occasional help from someone on the ground who can grab on to your legs and pull down, allowing you to snap back up. For the experienced swinger, the entire arrangement offers almost as many possibilities as the trapeze. However, even if you are not an expert, you can get a fine view of the river and the trees growing alongside.

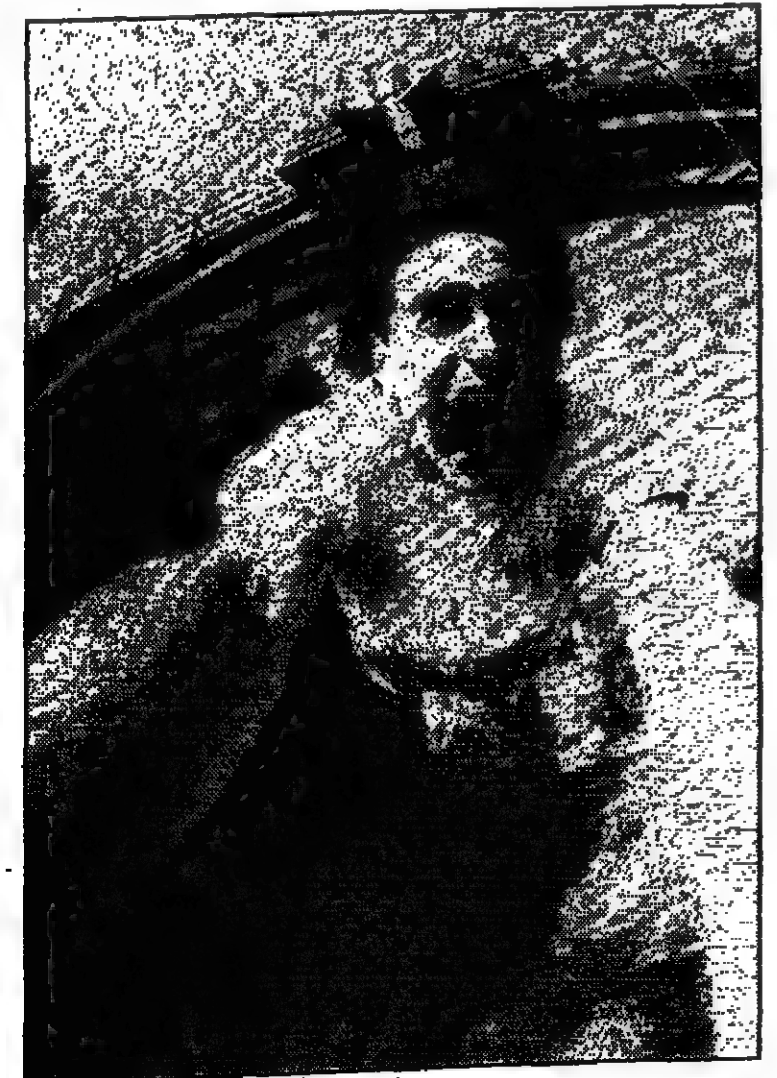
The bungee swing costs NIS 40 for as long as a stint as you like. Apparently, you either tire of the sport or give in to the pleas of others who want to try it.

It is, of course, the Jordan River that provides the main reason for Abu-Kayak's existence. And bungee swings are just the latest attraction there. The site, which straddles the Galilee and the Golan, provides kayaks, rafts and inner tubes for coasting down the river. When we tried a kayak some weeks ago, the river was fairly calm, with only a few rapids. It wasn't the most exciting trip, but it was pure pleasure to go down the tranquil river, with the greenery growing low on either side and the birds singing and flying overhead.

Don't doze off just yet. With the advent of the winter rains, the water should flow somewhat faster, making the trip more exciting, if a little less sublime. The rafts, which are larger and more cumbersome, provide a calmer ride. A bus brings you back to the starting point.

Abu-Kayak is located at the Jordan Park. If you are coming from Tiberias, take the road north around Lake Kinneret. After Capernaum and the Arik Bridge, take the first left turn and follow the signs. From Ein Gev, turn left at the Yahudiya Junction and right at the Jordan Park junction.

For information and reservations, call (06) 692-1078.



If you're a thrill-seeker, but too yellow-bellied for the real McCoy (shown here), you might try the Abu-Kayak bungee swing. It allows you to glide back and forth over the picturesque Jordan River. (Reuters)

- Haim Shapiro

Where to eat in Israel

EILAT

TANDOORI Indian Restaurant - The only restaurant in Israel where price SHAKES HANDS with QUALITY and quantity smiles. Live traditional Indian dancing daily. King's Wharf Lagoon Hotel. Tel./Fax: 07-633 879, 636 874. Open noon-3:30 p.m.; 8 p.m.-midnight.

MERZLIYA PITUAH

TANDOORI Indian Restaurant - Only restaurant where price SHAKES HANDS with QUALITY and quantity smiles. Buffet Lunch NIS 46 (children NIS 23). Open noon-3 p.m.; 7 p.m.-1 a.m. Mercatim Building, 32 Meaot St. Tel./Fax: 09-954 6702, Tel./Fax: 954 6768.

ATLANTIS FISH & SEA FOOD RESTAURANT - Three Course Business Lunch for only NIS 59 (incl. one glass of wine). Open daily noon-1 a.m. Mercatim Building, 32 Meaot St. Tel. 09-956 8958.

JERUSALEM

ANGELO RISTORANTE ITALIANO - Frommer's 1997 Guide says, "The most superb pasta in the country." Also fresh fish & Roman specialties. Kosher Dairy. Call owners Angelo Di Segni / Lori Rosenkrantz for reservations. 9 Horkanos. Tel. 02-623 8096.

BIRD OF PARADISE (Old City) - Fresh home made food - Dairy and vegetarian cuisine, mellow atmosphere in the heart of the Jewish Quarter, live music and poetry. Kosher 56 Chabad St. (above the Cardo) Tel. 02-626 4723.

ESHEL AVRAHAM AVIRU - Glatt Kosher Umehadrin. Delicious mixed grill, meats & fish prepared on the grill. Also superb shawarma, soups & salads. Open 11 a.m. to 1 a.m., including Motzaei Shabbat & Hag. 9 Yirmiyahu St. Tel. 02-637 3684.

EUCALYPTUS - The taste of Israel from Biblical Days. Excellent meat, fish & vegetarian dishes enhanced by a masterful use of herbs and spices. Luncheon specials. Evening entertainment. Rave reviews. Kosher. 7 Horkanos St. Tel. 02-624 4381.

HECHAL SHILOMO - RESTAURANT/CATERERS serving you the best, freshest, most delicious food in an exclusive environment. Functions for up to 160. 8th Mile, Bar Mitzvah, 7 Branches. 56 King George St. Glatt Kosher/meat. Tel. 02-622 3312.

KOHINOR Kosher Indian Restaurant - Kashrut supervision by Rabbi Yosef Fink. Buffet lunch NIS 47 (children NIS 24) Open 12-4 p.m.; 8 p.m.-midnight. Holiday Inn Hotel, The Crown Plaza. Tel. 02-688 8867, Tel./Fax: 02-653 8867.

LITTLE JERUSALEM - The Ticho House. Kosher Dairy & Fish. Open for breakfast, lunch, dinner. Daylight garden setting. Free entrance to the famous Anna Ticho Museum. Live Jazz Tuesday evenings. 8 HaPaz Kook St. Tel. 02-624 4186.

NORMAN'S STEAKN BURGER - Freshest burgers, steaks, ribs, chicken, fish, salads and more, grilled to perfection. Family dining, American atmosphere & service. Kosher Jerusalem Pabstbros. 27 Emek Poteim, German Colony. Tel. 02-686 8803.

PERA & MELA (Agas Ve Tapash) - Authentic pasta & Italian specialties, prepared by former Italian, Girolamo & Miriam Otolenghi. Also crepes, pizzas. 7 Hama'ot St. (off King George). Tel. 02-625 1975 Kosher-dairy. Glass of wine with this ad.

RESTAURANT MISHKENOT SHAANANIM - Superb French cuisine for lunch & dinner, 7 days a week. Outstanding wine cellar, elegant setting - spectacular view - private room. Located in Yemin Moche (below the Guest House). Tel. 02-625 1042.

RIENZI - Candlelight dining in an elegant decor. Fresh fish and homemade pasta. Kosher-Dairy. Business lunch from NIS 35. 10 King David St. (across from Hebrew Union College). Tel. 02-622 2312.

SECOND CUP COFFEE CO. - The world's best cup of coffee - also selling unique gift items - the perfect gift for that special person. 4 Shamel St. Tel. 02-623 4633.

SHEINERS - Kreplach Soup to Jerusalem Mbead Grill. Great food at reasonable prices, served in a cozy modern setting. Luncheon specials. Open noon-11 p.m. Glatt Kosher-Umehadrin. Karnei Nesharim 24, Givat Shaul. Tel. 02-651-1446.

SURFERS' PARADISE - The only kosher Internet restaurant in Israel. Delicious pasta, soups, salads, pies. Surf the Net/ADL/Email/Scan photos. 4 Dorot Fishonim, off Ben Yehuda Mall. Tel. 02-623-8934.

THE 7TH PLACE - Popular Jerusalem dining spot, authentic Southern Indian and dairy cuisine. Spacious, bright and friendly. Live show every night. Kosher: 37 Hillel St. (Belt Agon - the journalists center). Tel. 02-625 4486.

TROCADERO - New Italian Restaurant and Coffee Shop in the elegant Judeica Center at Gush Etzion Junction. Magnificent views. Private Party facilities. Free glass of wine with ad. Open 8 a.m. - midnight & Sat. night. Kosher dairy. Tel. 02-693 4040.

RIMON RESTAURANT - "A Jerusalem Landmark". Grilled Meats and Middle Eastern cuisine. Steaks, shawarma, shish kebabs, fish, chicken, lamb. Indoor-outdoor seating. Glatt Kosher-Umehadrin. 4 Luriz St. (next to Cafe Rimoni). Tel. 02-624 3712.

GALILEE-MITZPE MICHMANIM

TAIKO - Traditional Japanese home cooking known for its aesthetic and health qualities. Adjacent studio and exhibition of kimono design by the artist. A magnificent view of lower Galilee from the peak of Mt. Karmel. Tel./Fax: 04-988 8889.

TEL AVIV

RESTAURANT CAFE TEL AVIV (former Mandy's) - Italian & Mediterranean Cuisine. "Delicious... Fantastic... Out of this world..." Open for lunch and dinner. Heyarkon 317, Tel Aviv. Tel. 03-6448282, for reservation.

TANDOORI Indian Restaurant - The only Indian restaurant where price SHAKES HANDS with QUALITY and quantity smiles. Buffet Lunch NIS 46 (children NIS 23). Open 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.; 7 p.m.-1 a.m. 2 Zamenhoff St., Dizengoff Sq. Tel. 03-625 8185, 829 8808.

ROSH PINA

THE LEBANON RESTAURANT - Main road outside Rosh Pina, near Paz gas station. A connoisseurs' oriental restaurant. Selection grilled meats, salt-water fish, shawarma, hummus + ful bread, salads, and many main courses. Tel. 06-863 7588.


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John le Carré comes in from the cold

In Tomorrow's **THE JERUSALEM POST MAGAZINE**

Weekender Leisure

On Camera



'Casper,' the best known ghost captured on film.

Haunting images

By DAVID BRAUNER

The old adage "a picture is worth a thousand words" could not be more applicable than in the field of psychic or spirit photography. Believe it or not, there are thousands of people out there snapping insubstantial natural occurrences. What's more, photographers have been capturing ghosts and spirits on film for over a century.

In the first recorded instance, in 1861, William Mumler of Boston, Massachusetts, focused his camera on an empty chair to take a self-portrait. He uncapped the lens and jumped into position. On processing the plate, Mumler found the image of a little girl sitting on his knee. He claimed that she was a relative who had died 12 years earlier.

Mumler carried out many further experiments in psychic photography with a rather high degree of success. Eventually, the "extras" in his photographs were discovered to be living people. Thus the first professional "spirit photographer" also became the first photographer accused of fraud and was jailed for his crimes. He died in poverty in 1884.

Though the area of spirit photography has seen plenty of hoaxes and photographic trickery, there have also been many serious researchers and investigators. Both the American and British societies for psychic research have investigated thousands of photographic images, and in many cases the jury is still out. Apart from intentional fakes, many photographs of psychic events are rejected as honest accidents of double exposure, light leaks, lens flare and processing chemistry.

For any photographer who thinks

he's seen and done it all, there is a real challenge in taking pictures of ghosts, spirits, apparitions, phantoms, angels and demons. Today's ghost hunters use more up-to-date terms like "ectoplasmic phenomena" and "paranormal anomalies."

The psychic photographer's first problem is to find unseen or barely visible "floating orbs" and "vortex phenomena." The simplest way is to go to places that spirits are likely to inhabit such as cemeteries, battlefields, and allegedly haunted houses. As one photographer put it, "I went to the creepiest part of the Old Biloxi [Mississippi] cemetery. I photographed areas where the trees and shrubs formed more or less uniform backgrounds near where I could feel chills and spooky feelings." Cold spots, which the photographer can sense as he walks around, are said to be indicative of psychic anomalies. They appear in pictures as "gray fuzzy spots," "white blobs," or "amorphous globes."

High-tech devices for locating cold spots and thus ghostly phenomena include "thermal scanners" and "infra-red non-contact thermometer detectors." The ghost hunter points a pistol-like thermal scanner at a likely spot, pulls the trigger, and an LCD displays the temperature reading of the air. Such instrumentation is capable of pinpointing temperature drops from the ambient temperature and detecting magnetic fields.

Black and white 400 ASA film is the recommended stock because it is slightly sensitive to light just above and below the visual range of the human eye — i.e., low ultra-violet (UV) and high infra-red, respectively.

Two avid ghost researchers, Dave Oester and Sharon Gill, co-founders of the International

Ghost Hunters Society (IGHS), described a recent visit to the Kings Valley cemetery in a recent newsletter. Local lore suggests that massacred American Indians were buried in a separate section of unmarked graves, known as the Lost Ones. Photographs from their visit show "an ectoplasmic mist that surrounded us." In one photo, they said, [the mist] "appears to be forming the shape of a person."

You do not have to be a photographer to find ghosts in pictures. In another IGHS newsletter, Patrick Kendall of Orem, Utah, found "real ghostly anomalies" in three photos in a family album. The pictures were taken on Halloween.

According to Tom Eleven of the Science of the Paranormal Internet site, "most ghost images will show up as a gray misty area or slight distortion field around the 'ghost.' This demonstrates that the ghost appears to be generating a 'zone of influence' where it is attempting to appear." To see hundreds of ghostly images, visit Tom's site at www.geocities.com/Area51/Cave/n9912/index.htm and Dave and Sharon's IGHS site with 700 ghostly pictures at <http://www.ghostweb.com>. Or e-mail them at ghostweb@ghostweb.com.

On the more earthly plane, the First Israel International Salon of Photography, sponsored by the Israel Photographic Art Society and the Rishon LeZion Municipality, is inviting all photographers to participate in its competition. Prizes are gold, silver and bronze medals. Photographs will be exhibited and catalogued. Closing date for entries is March 1, 1998. Entry forms are available from Dejan Dizdaz, 50 Eshkol Paz St., Ashkelon 78765. E-mail: uhh03@div.jcc.co.il



Believe it or not: Photos sent by amateur ghost-busters to a Web site showcasing over 700 spooky snapshots of 'paranormal anomalies' and 'ectoplasmic phenomena.'

Bridge

Postmortem analysis is half the fun

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

South dealer
Both sides vulnerable

North
♠ 32
♥ Q5
♦ AJ10742
♣ A62

West
♠ K7
♥ K8
♦ 95
♣ KQJ10754

East
♠ 985
♥ AJ96432
♦ 63
♣ 9

South
♠ AQJ1064
♥ 107
♦ KQ8
♣ 83

South West North East
1♠ 3C 3♦ pass
4♠ (all pass)

Opening lead: ♠K

Sometimes people enjoy the game more in the post-mortem discussions than at the table. Of course, people analyze bridge hands in different ways.

From my travels, I've found that one of the delightful things about bridge is the way various cultures bring their particular styles to the game, be it at the table or later. For example, you'll find in general that American and English players are careful bidders and polite to their partners and opponents at the end of a hand, though Americans are more expressive and excited when things go wrong.

Players from China tend to play fast and keep a poker face, and they don't discuss the hand — they go about their business dealing the cards for the next hand as soon as possible.

Russians seem to move the cards with the same intensity as they would chess pieces and, after the deal, they are equally intense (and positive) in their analysis.

The French, well, they can snap at each other even in the middle of the hand, but afterward, they conduct themselves in a *bon vivant* manner.

As for Israeli bridge players, they seem to think that you need only 23 or 24 points for game (not 25 or 26), and they like to determine the correct bid and play after looking at all four hands (i.e., they are not theorists).

Perhaps the friendliest bridge players on earth are from Australia. Some say you need only to give them a pint of beer and they'll be happy, regardless of the outcome of the hand. But they do like to talk bridge, and bridge journalists from Down Under seem to capture this

happy spirit in their writing.

Recently I spotted the story of today's deal, which took place in the Double Bay Bridge Center of Sydney, and was told to journalist Dick Cummings by one of the players, whose name is Tom Kiss (see, even their names are friendly!). As an aside, KISS is also an acronym for a popular style of partnership play called: Keep It Simple, Stupid! The game was matchpoints (or Top-Bottom, the popular term in Israel), and South began with a one-spade opening bid. West overcalled three clubs, North tried three diamonds, and South, pleased with his nice diamond holding, jumped to four spades. Perhaps East should have mentioned his heart suit along the way, and the fact that he remained silent took its toll in the cardplay.

West led the king of clubs, taken by the ace in dummy. Declarer led a trump to his queen, and West took the king. Looking at all four hands, we can see that the defenders can take three more tricks: a high club and the ace-king of hearts. But remember, each player was looking only at his hand and dummy. West cashed the queen of clubs and East had to make a discard. What would you have thrown in his position?

He discarded the six of diamonds. His reasoning was that partner might hold six clubs and cash the jack of clubs next. Then he could throw the three of diamonds and his partner would give him a diamond ruff. The error in this analysis is that partner should lead the jack of clubs on the second club play, if he started with six of them, to tell partner he'll be cashing the queen as well.

At the table, after East threw the six of diamonds, West continued clubs (not realizing his partner had the ace of hearts) and declarer ruffed, drew trumps and claimed the rest of the tricks. The ace-king of hearts went to bed, as they say.

Many of the expert players at the Double Bay Bridge Center discussed the deal (over a pint!) later that evening, and though the consensus was that the nine of hearts was the right signal by East, a more interesting defense would have been for West to duck the first round of trumps. That is, when declarer leads a trump to the queen, West follows with the seven. Now declarer will think the king of spades is with East, and he'll return to dummy with a diamond and take a second spade finesse. West will win the king, cash a high club, as East discards his second diamond, and give East a diamond ruff. Next comes the ace-king of hearts, for down two. What fun!

Matthew Granovetter can be reached at gran@netvision.net.il

Chess

In the dog house

By NIGEL SHORT

I was with a view to solving the vexing perennial problem of how to play against Garry Kasparov that I took a stroll in the cool night air on the eve of our last round game in Novgorod this week. I had hoped that the gently flowing river Volkhov, or the tranquility of the nearby 13th-century monastery, might be the perfect backdrop for providing the answer to this question.

Instead, I was set upon by a very large and overly intimate dog who appeared not to have been fed entirely to its satisfaction. When I eventually emerged from hospital, bandaged and bleeding, I had failed to refute the Sicilian Defense and had only succeeded in contemplating the lamentable state of hygiene in Russian medical institutions (the tournament director amused herself by killing cockroaches while we waited inside).

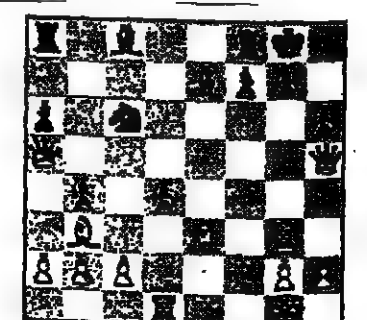
I reflected that it was just as well that I was playing chess and not tennis, because at least I could still "serve" left-handed. Here was the game.

White: Short
Black: Kasparov
Novgorod, 1997

Le4 c5, Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd 4.4. Ne4 Nf5 5. Ne3 a6 6. Be4 e6. This position appeared in no less than eight of our 1993 World Championship games. 7. 0-0 Be7 8. Bb3 0-0 9. f4 b5 10. e5 dxe5 11. fxe5 Nf7 12. Be3. Sacrificing the e-pawn to accelerate white's lead in development. Nonetheless black's position is sufficiently solid to withstand the attack. 12. ...Nxe5 13. Qh5 Nbc6 14. Nxe6 Nxe6 15. Rf3 b4? Immensely provocative. Black blithely

ignores the ominous build-up. 16. Kh3 h6 17. Rd1. Bringing up the reserves. It appears that white can win with the direct 17. Bxb6 but after g6! mate is prevented. 17. ...Qa5 18. Nd5! exd5 19. Rg3 4d4!

Black: (Kasparov)



White: (Short) to play

20. Bd5! There were numerous other possibilities, none of which, however, were sufficient for victory. For example 20. Rg3+ Kg7 21. Bxb6+ Kh7 22. Bg5+ (22. Bd5! is also interesting but after 22. ...Qxd5! 23. Qxd5 Kxb6 24. Qxc6+ Be6 black defends successfully) 22. ...Kg8 23. Qg6+ Kh8 24. Qh4+ leads to perpetual check; and finally the optically crushing 20. Qg6 Qe5 21. Bxb6 Bf6 22. Rf1 Be6 23. Qxf6 Qxe3! leads only to white's defeat. 20. ...Bg5! The only move. 20. ...dxe3? 21. Qd6 forces mate shortly. 21. Bxg5 Qxd5 22. Rf6! An echo of the combinative theme from the famous game Torre-Lasker in Moscow, 1925. Afterward, Garry described himself as a "lucky Lasker" as here white has no more than a draw. 22. Qxh5 23. Rsg7+ Kh8 24. Rg6+ Kh7 25. Rg7+ with a draw by perpetual check. A brief game but with a lot of punch!

© Telegraph Group

Male scents and sensibility

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

In the good old days when men were rough and tough, sweat was considered to be the most macho of manly odors. No wonder women swooned so easily. The stench was enough to make anyone pass out at a distance of 20 paces, let alone in a romantic embrace.

But to be fair, a certain class of men have for years been splashing cologne on their

nounced differences that characterize perfumes for women.

Be that as it may, many brands aimed at the male of the species are selling extraordinarily well and reaping tens of millions of dollars for the firms that have developed and promoted them.

Most men these days use deodorant, after shave, and/or eau de toilette as naturally as they use toothpaste. It's become part of the personal hygiene ritual.

That being the case, it's also become part of the new norm in gift-giving. Women can buy fragrances for the men in their lives just as men have been buying fragrances for women.

It's hard to tell what it is exactly that makes a scent "male" rather than "female." For instance, Latitude, from the house of Olivier de Kersauson, Paris, contains Guinean orange, Indian sandalwood, Sri Lankan cardamom, Egyptian geranium and bayberry from Saint-Thomas, all of which are common ingredients in female-oriented fragrances — but presumably in different quantities, and perhaps with a dash more alcohol. The end result is a slightly sweet tang with a hint of spice. Available in handsome silver flasks, it retails for NIS 99 for 75 ml. and NIS 149 for 150 ml.

Getting a lot of attention worldwide is another Parisian brand, Legendary Harley-Davidson, named after the famous American motorcycles which have been around since 1903. Here, it's not just the fragrance but the image of

strength, endurance, adventure and excitement that Harley-Davidson conveys. There was little doubt that this was a brand destined to succeed, but before launching it on the Israeli market, L'Oreal of Paris ran a local survey which, if nothing else, indicates that Israeli men are among the cleanest in the world.

According to the survey, 96 percent of Israeli men shower at least once a day. In addition, 81% use after shave and/or eau de toilette, and 41% have been using fragrances since their mid-teens. But the most interesting finding of the survey was with regard to sex appeal. Only 52% of Israeli women consider a pleasing male perfume to be sexually appealing — which says a lot for sweat.

Initially exuding a strong, spicy tang, Legendary Harley-Davidson, once it settles down, becomes much more subtle, though with long staying power. Price-wise, it's very attractive at NIS 99.90 for 100 ml. and NIS 69.90 for 50 ml.

Fame and glory are also factors in the success story of Michael Jordan Cologne, designed and distributed by Bijan. Fragrances of Beverly Hills, California. The top-notch American basketball player has not only given his name to this elusive, yet clean and fresh-smelling fragrance but was also involved in selecting the final aroma, the design logo and the packaging. Targeted at the teens to mid-30s market, it sells for NIS 199 for 100 ml. and NIS 139 for 50 ml.

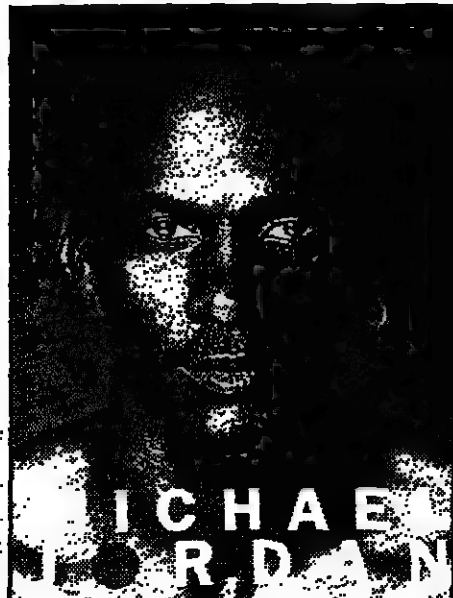
Now that it's okay for men to be caring and emotional, the Paris-based Perfumer's Workshop has come out with Samba Natural Man Eau de Toilette, aimed exclusively at the Renaissance man who is both



strong and sensitive. Very fresh, with faint overtones of fruitiness, woods, spices and delicate blossoms, it exudes a slightly soapy smell. NIS 129 will get you a 100 ml. bottle.

For more sophisticated tastes, Princess Marina de Bourbon's Eau de Toilette Pour Homme has a dominant aroma of musk, with geranium, amber, jasmine and pineapple lingering just below the surface. It has that extra but undefinable aura of class. A 100 ml. bottle costs NIS 198 and 50 ml. NIS 139.

As previously mentioned on this page, men's fragrances are usually far less costly, and can be worn by women for daytime use. Less overwhelming and not as seductive as fragrances created for women, they're not distracting and enable those women who must wear a fragrance to go about their business without fear of sexist comments about their "femme fatale" perfume.



necks and faces to create a more pleasant olfactory impression.

The only problem is that no matter what name fragrance manufacturers give to scents produced *pour homme*, most of them smell too much alike. They don't seem to have the pro-

مكزاتن الكحل

Thursday,
November 20, 1997

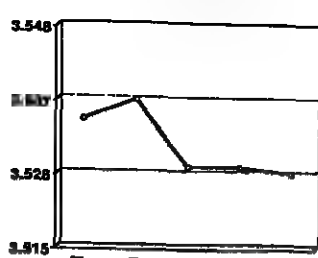
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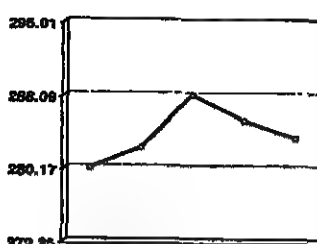
MARKETS

in brief

DOLLAR / SHEKEL

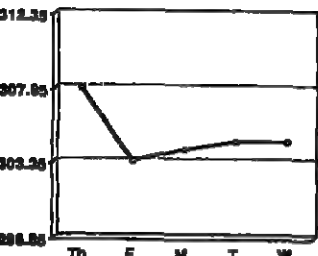


MAOF INDEX



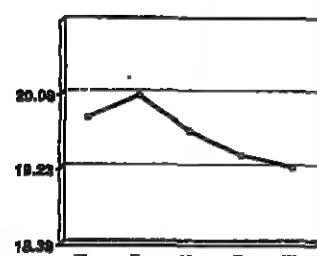
GOLD

\$ per ounce



OIL

\$ per barrel of Brent crude



DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



DOW JONES INDUST. AVG.



Tadiran Electronics wins \$120m. contract from Swiss military

By STEVE RODAN
and DAN GERSTENFELD

Tadiran Electronic Systems has won a \$120 million contract for the supply of command, control, communication and intelligence systems to the Swiss army, the company yesterday said.

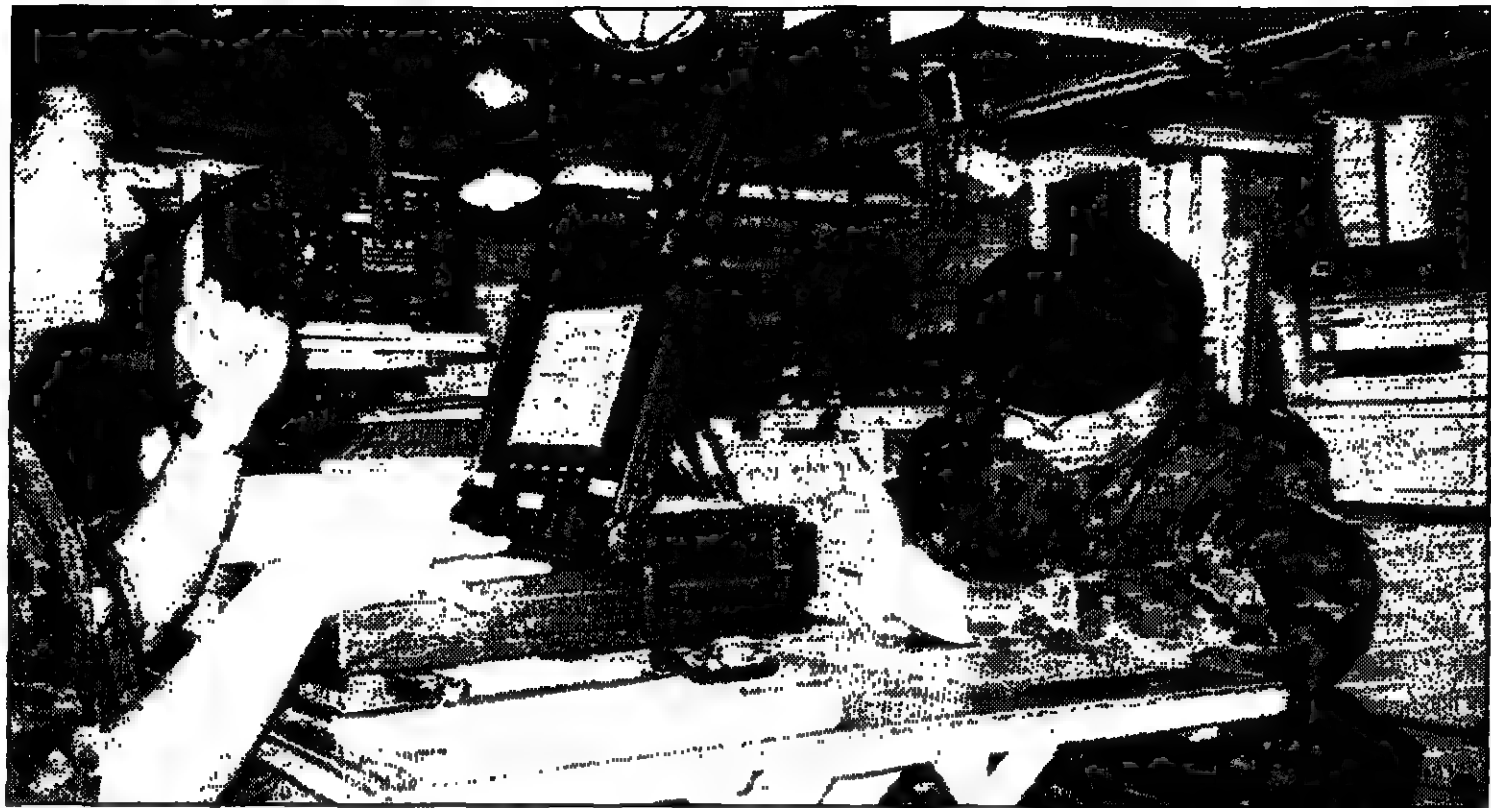
Industry sources said the deal is the largest ever made by an Israeli-based, private defense contractor with a foreign military.

Tadiran executives called the contract a milestone and said it represented a significant entry into the Swiss market. They said the deal may attract interest from other European armies as the Swiss are regarded as having one of the most advanced armies on the continent.

Called C3I, the Tadiran system is meant to provide the Swiss army's artillery division with real-time battlefield information on the deployment of friendly and enemy forces. The system comprises several portable computers and military work stations that incorporate information technology to channel data via radio or wire. Executives said the system would increase fire accuracy and save ammunition.

Tadiran chief executive officer Yisrael Zamir said the company is awaiting other contracts in Switzerland because the C3I system could be used for purposes other than artillery. He said the system is regarded as the most advanced in the world.

Tadiran's vice president for marketing Jacob Stern agreed. "We have signed other deals in the past but none was on such a large scale," he said. "I am sure that getting their recognition shows that



Swiss soldiers test C3I, the command, control, communication and intelligence system that the Swiss Army is buying from Tadiran Electronic Systems.

the system has great potential."

The company competed for the contract with defense firms from Britain, France and Germany. The leading competitors, European defense sources said, were Thomson-CSF in Paris and GEC-Marconi in Stanmore, England. The Tadiran award was granted by the Swiss Defense Ministry but

requires parliamentary approval.

At a speech at the signing of the contract in Bern on Tuesday, Zamir said, "this agreement, being signed between institutions and people, contributes vastly to the tightening of the business, technological and cultural ties between the Israeli and Swiss people."

Tadiran has completed a pilot

project of its C3I systems, installing it in the artillery school of the Swiss army and then in the artillery division. The system was also tested for two years under battlefield conditions.

Last month, Tadiran received a \$20 million contract to provide the IDF with electronic warfare systems.

Other private companies, such as Elbit Systems Ltd., have won larger contracts, but only as consortium leaders.

Tadiran Electronic Systems became an independent company in January as part of a reorganization plan at Tadiran. The new company has 350 employees and boasts annual sales of \$67 million.

Leumi, Coutts ink cooperation deal

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Bank Leumi and London-based Coutts Bank yesterday signed an agreement under which both banks will cooperate in the field of private banking.

Coutts is a subsidiary of National Westminster Bank (NatWest Group) and is the largest private banking organization in the world. It has 40 offices in 16 countries and its assets total \$30 billion.

In a statement, Bank Leumi said that under the agreement the bank would be able to provide its clients with additional expertise in asset management and consultation in the management of financial investments.

The agreement was signed in London by Leumi CEO Galia Maor and Coutts CEO Glyn Jones.

The agreement is an excellent opportunity for strengthening business connections with Israel, Jones said, adding that it will allow Coutts to act

in the area of advanced finance services here. Maor said that she sees the agreement as an extra opportunity to provide the bank's international private clients with management services of the highest quality.

Cedric Olivestone, senior vice president of Bank Leumi's international division, said that Coutts can lend expertise to Bank Leumi in private banking. The banks also intend to cooperating in opening mutual funds that will invest in Israel and abroad.

Treasury to mayors: Don't overdo rate hike

By DAVID HARRIS

Local authorities that irresponsibly raise municipal property taxes (arnona) will have to explain their actions to the public, said State Budget Director David Milgrom, just two days after he successfully persuaded the Knesset Finance Committee to approve a 13.9 percent increase in the tax.

The Union of Local Authorities in Israel (ULA) yesterday launched a bitter attack on Milgrom and the Finance Ministry's arnona policy.

"The Treasury pressures the local authorities to raise the arnona and immediately thereafter declares that it is opposed to exactly that," read a statement from the ULA.

The row follows three weeks of changes in proposals from the Treasury, Interior Ministry, and MKs from a variety of parties that led to the 13.9% increase.

Originally the ministries asked the MKs to approve an 8.9% tax hike, in line with the increase in the consumer price index to September. Last week the ministries returned to the committee requesting an 18.9% increase, but after a series of debates the committee approved a compromise.

13.9%, plus a 2% increase for anyone paying the minimum tax rate. The initial 8.9% and 2% must be imposed, but the additional 5% is at the discretion of individual local councils. The tax increase is applicable to residential and business properties alike.

The vast majority of municipalities will only increase the tax by 8.9%, according to Milgrom. The need for each local authority to present accounts to its residents will persuade authorities to implement efficiency measures that will cut costs, he added. The need for balanced books is seen as particularly important in 1998, which is an election year in the municipalities.

Milgrom also said that any municipality that does not effectively manage its budget and shows excessive debts will not be entitled to special help from central government.

First Union, CoreStates in largest US bank takeover

By DANIEL DUNAIEF
and DYLAN RATIGAN

First Union Corp. agreed to buy CoreStates Financial Corp. for more than \$16.1 billion in stock in the biggest US bank takeover ever.

First Union, the US' sixth-largest bank, will pay 1.62 of its shares for each CoreStates share. That values CoreStates at \$81.41 a share, based on Tuesday's closing prices.

The combined company will have \$204b. in assets and 2,766 offices in 12 states along the

Eastern seaboard and in Washington DC.

The acquisition will make First Union the biggest bank in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

"With CoreStates, they'd cut out a lot of costs and get quite a bit of growth," said Douglas Penn, an analyst at American Express Financial Advisors, which owns 7.52 million First Union shares.

Shares of CoreStates surged 6 1/2 to 79 and First Union's fell 2 3/16 to 50 1/4 after Bloomberg News reported that a takeover was in the works.

First Union's offer is a 17.2 percent premium to CoreStates' stock price, based on yesterday's closing prices. Still, the offer is less than the \$88 a share Mellon Bank Corp. bid for CoreStates last month.

CoreStates rebuffed that takeover bid. Mellon withdrew the bid last month.

Charlotte, North Carolina-based

First Union, with assets of \$144 billion, has been among the leaders in buying rivals. First Union and CoreStates are merging as banks acquire each other at a record pace to boost profits and cut costs.

"Together, we will be unbeatable," CoreStates Chairman Terrence Larsen said.

The companies wouldn't specify how they were going to cut costs or how many jobs would be lost.

First Union, however, expects to add 3,000 new jobs in Philadelphia, which will be the new headquarters for the bank's corporate lending business. That's where CoreStates is based. First Union expects after-tax restructuring charges of \$795 million in the second quarter of 1998. It plans to complete the transaction in April.

First Union plans to sell branches in 1998, and expects to realize after-tax gains of \$44 million. The

acquisition will add to earnings per share within 18 months, the First Union said.

First Union's bid values CoreStates at about 5.17 times book value, or assets minus liabilities.

Banks paid an average 2.2 times book value in acquisitions this year, according to SNL Securities. The purchase is structured as a tax-free pooling of interests. First Union Chairman and Chief Executive Edward Crutchfield will keep his title.

Larsen will become vice chairman. Larsen will have direct leadership of the combined company's corporate banking business, which lends money to specialized industry groups and large corporations, raises capital through investment banking and offers merchant banking, leasing, international finance, money management and other services.

CoreStates has about 570 offices in Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey. With about \$48 billion of assets, the company ranks third in terms of deposits in Pennsylvania and sixth in New Jersey, according to Keefe, Bruyette & Woods. (Agencies)

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Israel electric חברת החשמל

The Israel Electric Corporation wishes to purchase the following goods/services:

TENDER	DESCRIPTION	Cost of for tender documents, inc. VAT (non-refundable)
627517	Contract for the supply of aluminum conductor steel reinforced ACSR, non-insulation 680/85 mm ² , OD=35mm construction 19x2.4 + 54x4 mm., weight 2566 kg/km. Quantity: 380 tons. Stage A- Submission of technical/commercial details without price. Preliminary Conditions: ISO 9002, plus at least two years experience in manufacturing conductors using similar technology. Additional conditions: Certificate of analysis and completed questionnaire	NIS 1,030

Last date for submitting bids: December 21, 1997, at 11 a.m.

Additional pre-conditions:
A. Participation in the tender is also subject to complying with the preliminary conditions detailed in the Tender Regulations 1993, Para. 6(a) 1, 2, 3 (i.e. registration as required by law, compliance with mandatory specifications, and the holding of the permits required by law for transactions with public bodies).
B. The Israel Electric Corporation reserves the right to allow a bidder who has not provided some required relevant documents, permits, licenses, etc. to submit them within a specified time that will be set by the Corporation.

The tender documents may be obtained from the Import Department, 11 Sderot Pal-Yam, Haifa, on Sunday to Thursday between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, on submission of a receipt, demonstrating payment (non-refundable) for the documents into the Corporation's account at the Postal Bank. Payment slips for making such payments are obtainable at the above address by calling 04-868-7530.

Before purchasing the tender documents, they may be perused at the offices of the Import Department at the above address.

Bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope and be placed in Tender Box No. 2 at the Pal-Yam Building, Haifa (address as above) by 11 a.m. on the last date for submitting bids, as stated above.

No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.

NOTE: In appropriate cases, the Electric Corporation will give preference to suppliers, in accordance with the Tenders Regulations (Preference for Locally Produced Goods, and Obligation to Extend Commercial Cooperation).

The Electric Corporation reserves the right to negotiate, where this is legally permissible.

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ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

TARGET
(מטרה)
Mutual Fund for
Foreign Residents

Date:	18.11.97
Purchase Price:	131.26
Redemption Price:	129.36

MUTUAL FUNDS
LEUMI PIA
A Ministry of Finance Approved Fund

PRIME
(פריים)
Mutual Fund for
Foreign Residents

Date:	18.11.97
Purchase Price:	119.25
Redemption Price:	117.69

MUTUAL FUNDS
LEUMI PIA
A Ministry of Finance Approved Fund

	LAST	CHANGE*
2480.0	0.0	

LAST		CHANGE	
189.0	0.0		

[illegible]

LAST CHAP

NASDAQ[illegible]

NYSE

EC Israeli Economic Corp	10.0825	-0.3
Loor	21.25	+0.1

SOURCE: SEP CENSUS (DATE 1940)

INTERNATIONAL

[illegible]

Motorola Inc	63.4375	-0.125
Murphy Oil	55.5825	-0.125

Safeco Corp.	46.75
Safety-Kleen	26.0625
Paul's Cos.	80.6875

Scherling Plough	59.625
Schlumberger	82

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מכאן הכל

Japan stocks post biggest fall since '95

Asia

Japan's main stock index plunged 5.3 percent - its biggest drop since the Kobe earthquake of January 1995 - amid concern the government isn't ready to spend money to help financial institutions and stimulate the torpid economy.

Japan's finance minister has told the parliament the government won't use pension and postal savings funds to boost the economy. The remarks came a day after Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said he is considering using the funds to rev up growth, then backtracked on the statement, according to Japan's Jiji Press.

With Japanese banks under enormous pressure at home and overseas, the government's flip-flop alarmed investors. The domestic economy has stalled and bad loans are piling up as bankruptcies soar and borrowing costs rise.

"The environment is hostile and difficult and dangerous," said Peter Whelpton, president of NAWest Garmore Investment Management Japan Ltd., which manages about \$3 billion in Japanese equities.

The benchmark Nikkei 225 index fell 884.11 points to 15,842.46. It was the index's biggest percentage decline since January 23, 1995, six days after the quake that killed more than 5,000 people in the port city of Kobe. The Topix index of all shares on

the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange fell as much as 58.43 points, or 4.6%, to 1221.60. More than 20 stocks fell for each that rose on the first section.

Tel Aviv

Israeli stocks fell yesterday as investors focusing on declining Asian markets expected US stocks - and Israeli companies traded in the US - to fall as well.

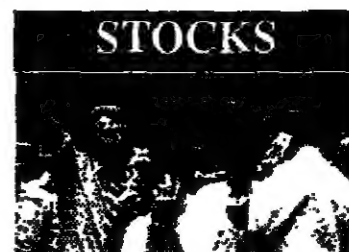
Tadiran Ltd., a telecommunications and defense systems company, and Makhshesh Chemicals Ltd. were exceptions. Tadiran soared 5 percent after a subsidiary said it won a contract worth \$120 million to supply electronic systems to the Swiss army. Makhshesh jumped 3.75% after it said third-quarter net income tripled as chemical sales in Latin America rose, particularly sales of herbicides and fungicides.

The Maof Index of 25 stocks fell 0.72% to 283.36. The Mishman Index fell 0.52% to 274.85. The Tel Aviv Continuous Trading Index fell 0.24% to 93.75.

Israeli investors are "trying to anticipate what the US is going to do, instead of reacting, as they used to," said Jonathan Half, vice president at the Tel Aviv office of Oscar Gruss Ltd.

Europe

UK stocks closed mixed as



STOCKS
Maof 283.36 ▼ 0.72%
Dow Jones 7724 ▲ 0.97%
FTSE 4830.1 ▼ 0.32%
Nikkei 15842.46 ▼ 5.29%

falling Asian markets and growing concern that UK interest rates could rise soon countered the gains sparked after Merrill Lynch & Co. agreed to take over Mercury Asset Management Plc. Companies that rely on Hong Kong for a large portion of their profits, such as HSBC Holdings Plc, fell. Food retailers plummeted after Safeway Plc released lower-than-expected earnings.

The FTSE 100 Index of Britain's largest companies fell 44.9 points, or 0.93 percent, to 4830.1 with Safeway suffering the steepest decline.

"The presence of companies like HSBC Holdings and Standard Chartered makes the UK more susceptible than the rest of Europe to falls in Hong Kong," said

Rupert Thompson, group economist for Henderson Investors, which runs about 12 billion pounds (\$20b.) in assets worldwide. "And clearly the retail sales figures are reheating expectations that rates will have to go higher."

HSBC, which owns Hong Kong Bank, fell 15p to 1.435. Standard Chartered fell 5p to 643 and Cable & Wireless Plc fell 2p to 509.

Banks also helped drive the FTSE 100 index lower, even as Mercury Asset Management Group Plc and other fund managers soared after Merrill Lynch & Co. offered to buy Mercury for 1,700 pence a share. (Bloomberg)

Wall Street

NEW YORK (AP) - Blue-chip stocks rose yesterday as a sharp setback in Japan spurred another exodus into the US bond market, where interest rates fell to their lowest level in nearly two years.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 73.92 points to 7,724.74, its best finish since just before it tumbled 554 points on October 27, a session that began at 7,715.41.

Broad-market indicators were mixed, but none were pummeled by the latest outbreak of turmoil on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, where the main index plunged 5.3 percent after the Japanese prime minister said no tax money will be used to support Japan's troubled banking system.

Tokyo shares had rallied on Monday and Tuesday after the Japanese central bank pledged to protect depositors at a failed bank, spurring hopes that the government would do more to aid Japan's many troubled financial institutions.

US stocks drew some strength from the bond market, where long-term interest rates continued to flirt with the first move below 6% since January 1996.

Bonds, which have rallied in recent weeks as investors seek safer alternatives to the volatile stock markets around the world, rose yesterday despite a report that normally might have dampened the mood with inflation jitters.

The Commerce Department reported that construction of new homes and apartments unexpectedly rose in October, fanning worries about whether the economic pace can remain moderate enough to keep inflation under control.

Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by a 10-to-9 margin on the New York Stock Exchange, with 1,533 up, 1,416 down and 510 unchanged.

NYSE volume totaled 537.05 million shares as of 4 p.m., vs. 520.50 million in the previous session. The Standard and Poor's 500-stock list rose 6.36 to 944.59, the NYSE composite index rose 2.72 to 493.90, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 0.77 to 1,601.21.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies fell 1.44 to 430.69, and the small-company dominated American Stock Exchange composite index fell 3.36 to 667.85.

Yen falls to 6-month low as stocks plunge

The dollar surged to a six-month high against the yen yesterday, as vanishing hope that Japan would bail out its beleaguered banks sent Tokyo stocks into a tailspin.

Japanese shares suffered their biggest one-day drop in almost three years after Finance Minister Hiroshi Mitsuoka dashed speculation the government would use public money to prop up the nation's banks.

"It looks like the government is reluctant to provide leadership and incentive on helping banks," said Jeffrey Yu, senior currency trader at Sanwa Bank.

"That's why the dollar is up at

these levels."

The dollar rose more than a yen, to 127.34 yen from 126.13 on Tuesday. Earlier it rose as high as 127.47, just shy of the 4 1/2-year high it reached May 1.

The US currency could rise as high as 130 yen in the next two weeks, Yu said.

The dollar also rose to 1.7327 marks from 1.7296 marks. Those gains came as reports showed slowing money supply growth and ebbing business confidence in Germany, quelling speculation that German interest rates may soon head higher.

Bundesbank officials on



CURRENCIES
Dollar 127.34 ▼ 0.10%
Euro 1.7327 ▼ 0.16%
Mark 1.7327 ▼ 0.18%
Sterling 1.7327 ▼ 0.16%
Tuesday gave conflicting signals on whether they might raise interest rates in the near future.

Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 stock index plunged 5.3 percent, paring recent gains.

The index surged earlier this week on talk the ruling Liberal Democratic Party was considering using funds from government-linked pension and postal savings funds to buy preferred stock in Japanese banks.

Banks are staggering under the weight of billions of dollars in bad loans, falling stock prices, and rising borrowing costs.

Those problems are compounded by economic malaise in other parts of Asia.

Japanese banks have lent about

\$263 billion to countries in the region, according to the Bank for International Settlements. To be sure, some traders are wary of pushing up the dollar too far too fast, amid concern that Japanese officials might sell the US currency to slacken its pace.

Officials from the US and Japan said this week they're displeased with the yen's weakness.

"A lot of people are heading the comments of these officials, looking for intervention or serious jawboning," said Alfonso Alejo, senior proprietary trader at Sakura Bank Ltd. (Bloomberg)

Copper rises amid robust demand

Precious metals

Gold prices were little changed yesterday. Global gold demand was the highest ever for the third quarter, rising 6 percent to 705.3 metric tons, the World Gold Council said in a quarterly report.

Even so, southeast Asian demand fell 77% to 17.4 tons.

Demand in India, the world's largest gold consumer, offset the southeast Asian slump as Indian demand for gold rose 58% to a record 189.8 tons.

Gold fell 40 cents to \$305.55 an ounce.

Platinum rose for a third day as Johnson Matthey Plc, the world's

largest marketer of platinum, said on Tuesday that demand for the precious metal is set to exceed supply this year and next. Analysts and traders said Johnson Matthey's demand estimates were higher than expected.

Spot platinum rose \$3.50 to \$398 an ounce and spot palladium rose \$2 to \$211 an ounce.

Oil

Crude oil prices in London were little changed as a four-industry report showed a gain in US crude oil supplies as the US continued to build its forces in the Persian Gulf, raising tensions there.

The 1.3 percent gain in crude oil

COMMODITIES

Gold \$305.55 ▼ 1.2%
Crude Oil \$19.24 ▲ 0.02%
CRB 240.43 ▼ 0.6%

supplies in the US could limit demand for North Sea crudes after imports from Europe and Africa soared last week.

January Brent rose 2 cents to \$19.24 a barrel on London's International Petroleum Exchange.

Others

Copper rose 0.4 percent, after posting its biggest one-day fall in almost four months, amid robust demand from pipe and wire makers in the US, the world's largest economy. The US Commerce Department said housing construction increased 1.4% last month in the world's largest economy, a sign that copper consumption remains robust. Through its use of pipes and wire, the construction industry accounts for two thirds of all copper consumption. Three-month copper rose \$8 to \$1.906 a ton on the London Metal Exchange.

Aluminum prices were little

changed. Aluminum held in LME-registered warehouses fell 4,575 metric tons to 699,100 tons, its lowest level in two and a half months, the exchange said in its latest daily warehouse report. While demand for aluminum products such as cars and appliances remains strong in the US and Europe, an economic slowdown in Japan and the currency crisis in southeast Asia is reducing consumption in the region. The LME's three-month forward aluminum contract fell \$3 to \$1,636 a ton.

Coffee prices were little

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patash (foreign currency deposit rates) (7.11.97)				
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	9 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	5.000	5.000	5.250	5.250
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.825	5.750	6.000	6.000
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.250	2.375	2.625	2.625
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.625	0.625	1.000	1.000
Yen (10 million yen)	-	-	-	-

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (19.11.97)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Rates*
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
Currency basket	3.7855	3.8468	-	-	3.8178
U.S. dollar	3.4988	3.5593	3.43	3.51	3.5260
German mark	2.0173	2.0489	1.96	2.08	2.0367
Pound sterling	5.8973	5.9825	5.78	6.08	5.9308
French franc	0.8026	0.8124	0.89	0.93	0.8083
Japanese yen (100)	2.7484	2.7928	2.70	2.84	2.7992
Dutch florin	1.7901	1.8190	1.75	1.85	1.8074
Swiss franc	2.4879	2.5291	2.44	2.57	2.5145
Swedish krona	0.4697	0.4742	0.45	0.48	0.4642
Norwegian krona	0.4959	0.5039	0.48	0.52	0.5006
Danish krone	0.5299	0.5385	0.52	0.55	0.5350
Finnish mark	0.8886	0.8974	0.86	0.89	0.8748
Canadian dollar	2.4698	2.5097	2.42	2.55	2.4892
Australian dollar	2.4181	2.4581	2.37	2.49	2.4381
S. African rand	0.7180	0.7308	0.65	0.74	0.7252
Belgian franc (10)	0.9763	0.9941	0.96	1.01	0.9874
Austrian schilling (10)	2.3665	2.4126	2.31	2.46	2.3842
Italian lira (1000)	2.0597	2.0930	2.02	2.13	2.0797
Jordanian dinar	4.8302	5.0089	4.67	5.20	4.8893
Egyptian pound	1.0000	1.0800	1.00	1.08	1.0225
ECU	3.9832	4.0577	-	-	4.0318
Irish punt	6.2650	6.3396	5.16	5.42	5.3459
Spanish peseta (100)	2.3893	2.4278	2.34	2.47	2.4118

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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955-8407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.
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BONDS

US 30-year T-bill yield
6.04 ▼ 0.3

weeks. Helping to bolster prices was a government report showing that prices US businesses paid for imported goods rose by 0.1 percent in October, suggesting that inflation remains in check.

"Import prices were a lot less than expected," said Mark Sauvigne, a bond trader at Chase Securities Inc. "Some people may

see that as slightly positive for the market."

Bonds briefly pared gains after a report showed an unexpected rise in new housing construction last month, keeping alive concern inflation may still accelerate.

The Commerce Department said housing starts climbed 1.4 percent in October to a seasonally adjusted 1.53 million annual rate, compared with the 2.1 percent drop expected by analysts.

"Low mortgage rates, hefty income growth, and good job prospects put people in the frame of mind" to spend, said Kenneth Mayland, chief financial economist at KeyCorp in Cleveland.

Strong economic growth can spur inflation, which erodes the value of bonds fixed payments.

Even so, the effects of the housing report proved fleeting as traders focused on turmoil in Asia's financial markets and the fact that inflation remains low.

US economic news "is not the key thing moving prices these days," said Patrick Dimick, a government bond strategist at UBS Securities.

Investors are also keeping an eye on developments in Korea, after the government unveiled a plan to help boost the nation's sagging economy. If the measures fail, it may prompt more investors to look to the safety of Treasuries, traders said. Asia's troubles raised expectations that demand for US exports to the region will slow, dragging on US growth and keeping inflation at bay. (Bloomberg)

WHERE TO GO

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Inside

Devils win seventh straight
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Sports Editors:
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

Francis quits Tottenham

LONDON (Reuters) — Gerry Francis admitted yesterday he was not sure whether he had made the right decision to walk out on Tottenham Hotspur after three eventful years as manager.

Francis explained his reasons for quitting at a packed news conference at White Hart Lane and said: "I am not entirely sure I am doing the right thing."

"It is an honor to manage a club like Tottenham and I have enjoyed my time here. But there comes a time when your own personal pride makes you go to the chairman and ask him what he thinks. We needed to win a trophy this season but we had a bad start."

"I felt it would give the club a lift and the players a bit of a release if I resigned," Francis blamed Tottenham's poor results on a crop of injuries but backed chairman Alan Sugar and new manager Christian Gross of Swiss club Grasshoppers to transform the fortunes of the under-achieving North London giants who have not won an honor since the FA Cup in 1991.

And he warned Gross of problems ahead, saying: "Managing Tottenham is a difficult job. In many ways it is a political club, it is a big club potentially but league results don't always show it and they have not won the title for 36 years."

"When I was at Queens Park Rangers we always finished above Tottenham in the league which perhaps shouldn't be," it was unusual for a departing manager to hold a resignation press conference, and even more unusual for the chairman to be sitting next to the outgoing manager.

But Francis explained: "We talked a lot about whether I should come on my own today, but we started together and I felt we should be together when I went out."

Citing the injuries to internationalists like Darren Anderton, Les Ferdinand and Steffen Iversen which blighted his plans, he also said that it was difficult to replace players of the caliber of Nick Barmby, Juergen Klinsmann and Teddy Sheringham.

"Last season was probably the hardest one of my life. To keep Tottenham up was quite a feat in itself but to finish in the top half of the table was a real performance."

Sugar said that former Tottenham defender Chris Hughton, who has been coaching the reserves, will take over as first team coach under Gross who will be introduced at a news conference today.

Sugar said: "Reports about his assistant Fritz Schmid coming with the new manager are inaccurate and Chris will be taking over as coach." He would not elaborate further on the new management appointments.

Expos send Pedro Martinez to Boston

Big-name trades bring excitement to low-key expansion draft

PHOENIX (AP) — For seven hours, the expansion draft dragged on and on, just begging for one name player to be picked. And then the moment it ended, all heck broke loose.

Trades came so quickly that general managers literally stacked up to announce them, with NL Cy Young winner Pedro Martinez, Fred McGriff, Robb Nen and Travis Fryman among the stars changing teams.

The two newcomers, the Tampa Bay Devil Rays and Arizona Diamondbacks, got into the act while the World Series champion Florida Marlins continued their breakup. In all, there were more than a dozen trades and free-agent signings.

"Things were coming together and falling apart all night, and that's what makes it exciting," Arizona general manager Joe Garagiola Jr. said. "This is the kind of activity we used to have at the winter meetings, and fans love it." The deals included these:

— Martinez was sent from Montreal to Boston for young pitcher Carl Pavano and a player to be named.

— The Marlins dealt closer Nen to San Francisco for three young pitchers, then traded outfielder Devon White to Arizona for just-drafted pitcher Jesus Martinez.

— The Devil Rays got first baseman McGriff from Atlanta for a player to be named and signed free agent reliever Roberto Hernandez. Tampa Bay also got shortstop Kevin Stocker from Philadelphia for just-picked outfielder Bob Abreu.

— The Diamondbacks acquired Detroit third baseman Fryman for newly drafted Joe Randa in a four-player deal.

— Montreal traded second baseman Mike Lansing to Colorado for three minor leaguers.

The trades far overshadowed a draft in which the two new teams steered clear of high-priced vets and focused on pitching prospects. The Devil Rays made Florida pitcher Tony Saunders the No. 1 choice and the Arizona Diamondbacks then took Cleveland pitcher Brian Anderson.

In all, 39 of the 70 draft picks were pitchers, with Bob Wolcott and Brian Boehringer among them. Most had little or no big league experience — that may be the best way to build, but it hardly makes for high drama.

"Most expansion drafts go this way," Atlanta general manager John Schuerholz said. "These are not familiar names, not household names to most fans. But I think it's a wise thing to do, to look for young pitching." At best, the choosing of Colorado outfielder Quinton McCracken, Boston pitcher Jeff Suppan, White Sox catcher Jorge Fabregas and Anaheim knuckleballer Dennis Springer — the only player over 30 to be picked in the opening two rounds — prompted a mild response from the small gallery.

But the mention of Esteban Yan, Hanley Frias, Steve Cox and Chris Clemens led some fans to chant, "Boring! Boring!" Yet as history has shown, picking fading stars such as Gil Hodges, Ted Kluszewski and Bill Singer in expansion drafts rarely produces success. That might be the reason the Devil Rays and Diamondbacks avoided such players as Eric Davis, Eric Karros, Eric Young, Geronimo Berroa and Todd Zeile.

"When we looked at the board, it made sense for both teams to go the way they did," Tampa Bay manager Larry Rothschild said.

Arizona, which will play in the NL West next season, began the third round by picking Pittsburgh third baseman Joe Randa, who hit .302 this year. Later, Tampa Bay, which will be in the AL East, took Atlanta pitcher Terrell Wade.

For Saunders and Anderson, it's a new start.

When last seen together, Saunders and Anderson were pitching in the snow during Game 4 of the World Series. This time, they were linked again amid palm trees and cactuses as the top two picks.

The Devil Rays took Saunders just three weeks after the 23-year-old pitcher helped the Marlins complete their five-year zoom from expansion losers to World Series winners.

"It's an honor," said Saunders, reunited with Rothschild, the Marlins' pitching coach until this month. "That tells me I must have done something right, that they wanted me before anybody else."

Saunders went 4-6 with a 4.61 ERA in his first season in the majors, though he went 5-0 with a 1.65 ERA against Atlanta. He was in Florida's postseason rotation, and started and lost Game 4 of the Series at Cleveland.

The Diamondbacks followed by choosing the 25-year-old Anderson.

"I enjoyed my time in Cleveland," he said. "I'm looking forward to being on a team that's just starting out." Anderson was 4-2 with a 4.69 ERA in eight starts for Cleveland, then sparked in the postseason. He had a 2.45 ERA in three relief appearances in the World Series, earning a save with three scoreless innings in the Indians' 10-3 win over Saunders and the Marlins in Game 4.

The draft was held at the Phoenix Civic Plaza, right across the street from the Diamondbacks' new Bank One Ballpark. The draft hall was decorated to make both teams feel comfortable, with palm trees for the Devil Rays and cactuses for the Diamondbacks.

Hingis, Majoli, Novotna advance at Chase tourney

NEW YORK (Reuters) — Top seed Martina Hingis, in quest of one of the few honors to elude her, advanced to the quarter-finals of the Chase Championships on Tuesday night with a straight-sets victory over Brenda Schultz-McCarthy.

Schultz-McCarthy, possessor of the fastest serve in women's tennis, carried Hingis to a tiebreak in the opening set but in the first game of the second set she tore off the nail on her right toe while she was lunging for a volley.

Following an injury timeout, the towering Dutch player went ahead 2-1 in that set but had trouble moving and was unable to continue, giving Hingis a 7-6 (7-3) 5-2 victory.

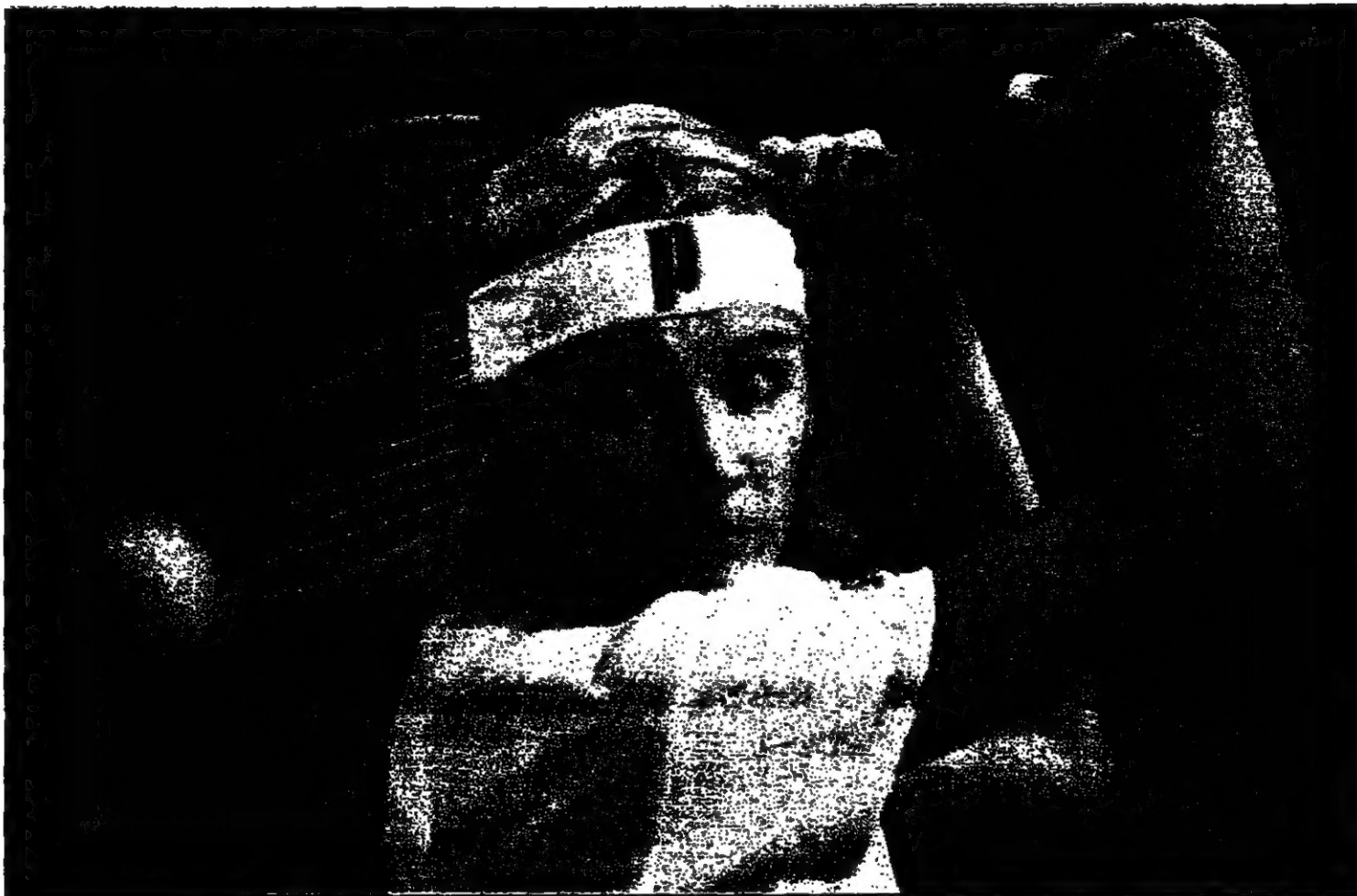
"The nail completely went off the toe," said the 6-foot-2 (1.88 m) tall Schultz-McCarthy. "I can hardly walk. I guess it's just bad luck. I played seven weeks in a row, so I guess my body is exhausted."

Hingis, winner of 12 tournaments this year including Wimbledon and the Australian and US Opens, has a match record of 75-4 for 1997. The only major tournament she has failed to win, other than the Chase, is the French Open.

Iva Majoli of Croatia, the woman who denied Hingis a Grand Slam sweep by beating her in the French, also won her opening match in Madison Square Garden, defeating Anke Huber of Germany 7-6 (7-5) 7-6 (7-2).

In the final match of the night, second seed Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic overcame deficits of 3-1 in the first set and 2-0 in the second to defeat Spaniard Conchita Martinez 6-4 6-4.

"After the Grand Slams, this is the biggest tournament in the world you can play," said Hingis, who lost to Steffi Graf in five sets in last year's Chase final.



FULLY FOCUSED — Jana Novotna prepares to hit a backhand slice to Conchita Martinez at the season-ending WTA Championships at Madison Square Garden on Tuesday night. Novotna won 6-4, 6-4.

"You want to end the season the way you started. I'm looking forward to my next match." The 17-year-old Swiss world No. 1 next meets Mary Pierce, whom she defeated in the Australian Open final in January and then again in

San Diego, California. Schultz-McCarthy, who blasted eight aces in the opening set, broke in the third game, but Hingis retaliated in the next game.

After falling behind 2-1 in the tiebreak, Hingis won three consecu-

tive points and was in control the rest of the way.

Hingis, who played four three-set matches in winning at Philadelphia last week, said her legs still feel a bit sore and that she was looking forward to a rest following this \$2

million championship.

Majoli avenged her loss to Huber in the opening round at Philadelphia last week, although Huber still leads their head-to-head rivalry 5-3.

"It's very hard to play Anke

because she's one of my best friends," said Majoli, the sixth seed from Croatia. "Every point was hard. She beats me so many times and I beat her sometimes."

"I felt really comfortable coming into this tournament. I feel my serve helped me a lot on key points and she was struggling a little on her serve. I was putting more pressure on her than last week when she beat me." Although Majoli won in straight sets, she totaled only four more points than Huber, 88-84, in the 1 hour 38 minute match.

The 20-year-old Majoli, buoyed by her first Grand Slam championship ("what every player wants," she called it), said she feels she has the ability to challenge Martina Hingis for the top ranking next year.

"We've got to fight to get to the No. 1 position because we are all so close and Martina is ahead of us pretty far," she said. "But I feel if I work hard and focus and give 100 percent, I have a good chance."

Majoli, who also defeated Huber in the first round of this tournament last year, plays Nathalie Tauziat of France in the quarter-finals.

Majoli staged a strong comeback to capture the opening set against Huber, rallying from a 4-1 deficit. She won three games in a row, then seemingly had the set in control when she broke for a 6-5 lead.

Huber, who lost a five-set thriller to Graf in the final of this tournament two years ago, forced a tiebreak by breaking back in the 12th game with a forehand cross-court pass.

Huber, 22, achieved the first break of the second set in the ninth game, but was unable to serve out the set as Majoli broke back in the 10th game at 15. Huber took the first two points of the tiebreak before Majoli swept the next seven.

Green ties consecutive game streak, but Mavs lose

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Dallas Mavericks A.C. Green tied the NBA record by playing in his 906th consecutive game, but Dallas lost its seventh straight game, 102-95 to the Sacramento Kings on Tuesday.

Codell Williamson had 20 points to lead Sacramento, which broke a

two-game losing streak. Lawrence Funderburke added a season-high 18 points and Mitch Richmond, who had led the Kings in scoring in all nine of their previous games, had 17.

Green had 20 points and 13 rebounds for Dallas. Dennis Scott

had 20 points, including 14 in the fourth quarter, and Shawn Bradley added 18.

Green, who has not missed a game since November 1986, tied the record set by Randy Smith with several teams from 1972-83. He is expected to break the record tonight when the Mavericks host the Golden State Warriors.

Green, 34, spent eight seasons with the Los Angeles Lakers and 3 1/2 years in Phoenix before being traded to the Mavericks in December 1996.

He entered Tuesday night's game averaging 10.4 points and 11 rebounds in a team-leading 38.8 minutes per game.

Lakers 97, Jazz 92
Kobe Bryant blocked Bryon Russell's 3-point attempt with five seconds left and went in for an uncontested windmill dunk to seal undefeated Los Angeles away win.

With four seconds left and the Lakers up 95-92, Russell took an inbound pass and squared up from 25 feet. But the ball was swatted to mid-court by Bryant, who then scooped it up and dunked with sixteenth of a second to play.

The win gave Los Angeles (9-0) the best start in team history and kept the Lakers in the ranks of the undefeated along with the Atlanta Hawks.

Karl Malone led the Jazz with 26 points, while Nick Van Exel added 19 for the Lakers.

Hawks 98, Wizards 89 (OT)
Rookie Ed Gray scored seven points in overtime as unbeaten Atlanta rallied in the fourth quarter and then shut out visiting Washington in the extra period.

Christian Laettner and Mookie Blaylock scored 24 points apiece for the Hawks, whose 11-0 start is the best in the NBA.

Gray, playing in place of Steve

Smith (back spasms), ended with 14.

It was the second overtime victory this season for Atlanta, which has had only one double-digit margin of victory — 11 points — in its streak. The Hawks have won 10 straight overtime games dating to the 1994-95 season.

Rockets 95, Knicks 84
Hakeem Olajuwon found his shooting touch with 24 points and Matt Maloney finished one shy of his career-high with 23 as Houston won at home.

Houston snapped its four-game losing streak and ended New York's three-game victory streak.

John Starks led the Knicks with 29 points and Charlie Ward had 14.

Celtics 122, Raptors 109
Dee Brown went 4-of-4 on 3-pointers in the first half as visiting Boston built a 23-point lead and cruised to its fourth straight win.

The four-game winning streak, which includes two victories over the Raptors, is the Celtics' longest since they won five straight from March 31 to April 9, 1995. Toronto has lost seven straight.

Grizzlies 100, Nuggets 87
Blue Edwards scored 27 points and Shaheed Abdul-Rahim added 18 as Vancouver won its first road game of the season.

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Midwest Division

San Antonio 6 3 .667
Minnesota 6 3 .667
Utah 5 5 .500
Vancouver 5 6 .455
Houston 4 5 .444
Dallas 3 7 .300
Denver 0 9 .000

It was the fifth victory of the season for the Grizzlies, who didn't win that many last year until Dec. 17.

LaPhonso Ellis scored 17 points in his first start for the Nuggets, who lost a franchise-record ninth time to start the season.

Timberwolves 108, Suns 90
Stephen Marbury scored 11 of his 23 points in the final 5:13 as the Timberwolves used a late surge to win on the road.

Kevin Garnett led Minnesota with 26 points and Tom Gugliotta added 20 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists. But it was Marbury who ended Phoenix's final comeback bid by spearheading a 15-0 run that helped turn a tight game into an 18-point margin of victory.

Bucks 87, Pistons 79
In a game that featured the second-lowest scoring first half in NBA history, Ray Allen and Terrell Brandon scored 21 points apiece as Milwaukee won at home.

Milwaukee led just 31-29 at the half, and the combined 60 points was only two more than the NBA record of 58 scored by Syracuse and Fort Wayne in January 1955.

Mark Price, snapping out of a major shooting slump, hit 10 of 13 shots and scored 23 points as Orlando notched a home victory.

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers 9 0 1.000
Portland 7 2 .778
Phoenix 6 2 .750
Seattle 7 3 .700
Sacramento 3 7 .300
Golden State 1 9 .111

Tuesday's results: Boston 122, Toronto 109; Orlando 112, L.A. Clippers 94; Atlanta 98, Washington 89 (OT); Houston 95, New York 84; Milwaukee 87, Detroit 78; Vancouver 100, Denver 87; L.A. Lakers 97, Utah 92; Minnesota 108, Phoenix 90; Sacramento 102, Dallas 96.

See NBA box scores, Page 18

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